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THE LATE PARLIAMENT.

THE Parliament of 1852 may be said to have drawn its last breath on Wednesday. Before we again have an opportunity of addressing our readers the country will be busily engaged in electing its successor. We, therefore, speak of it as of a thing that is no more, and can proceed to sum up its virtues or its errors, and write its epitaph.

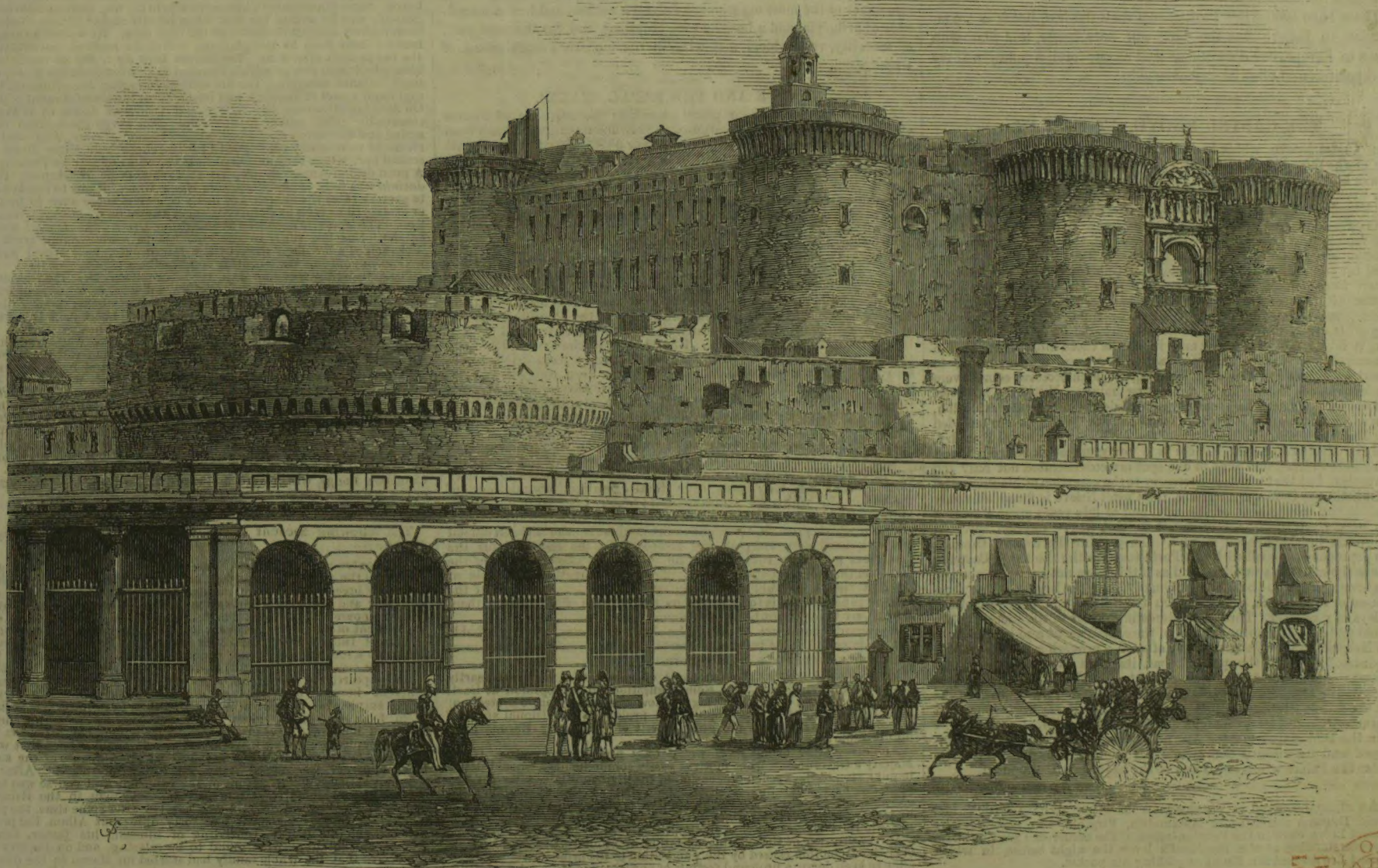
If the evil that men do lives after them, the good is not always interred with their bones. Of the late Parliament it may be said that the worst thing it ever did was productive of the best consequences. Its vote on the Chinese question, which would have been a crime in an irremovable Legislature, but which, with the power of a dissolution in the hands of the Minister, was no worse than a blunder, is the most serious charge that can be brought against its judgment or its patriotism. Happily, its factious vote was its death-warrant. The evil that it did was limited to the period of its existence, and is not likely to bear fruit in after time, if we may judge of the character of the Parliament which is to succeed it, by such flashes of opinion and sentiment as have been struck from the popular heart in public meetings, or in the addresses of candidates.

Until the hour when it became evident that the bifurcate Opposition, with Mr. Disraeli at the end of the one prong, and Mr. Gladstone at the tip of the other, would, either designedly or fortuitously, unite in support of the amiable resolution of Mr. Cobden,

and leave the Ministry in a minority, the Parliament cannot be said to have deserved ill of the country. Elected, in 1852, under the auspices of party chiefs, who, if they did not hanker to restore the Corn-laws, openly proclaimed that protection to native industry was, in their opinion, the true policy of the nation, the Parliament, before it had been many weeks in existence, gave the deathblow to the exploded doctrines of the Anti-Free-traders, and rendered it impossible for Protectionists to carry on the Government upon Protectionist principles. The first trial of strength which the political authors of its being submitted to it, proved fatal to them as Ministers. They fell amid the ruins of their Budget, sighing for the power which they have never been able to regain, and for the sweets of office which have never again come within reasonable distance of their lips.

The Administration of Lord Aberdeen succeeded; and the Parliament, seeing in the fall of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli a just retribution upon men whose conduct on the question of Free-trade had done so much to impair confidence in modern statesmanship, and to loosen the bands of political morality, accorded to their successors a full measure of confidence. Mr. Gladstone, as Financial Minister of Lord Aberdeen, produced an excellent Budget; and the Parliament, looking solely to its merits, yielded it a hearty support. Had there been at this time no design on the part of the late Emperor Nicholas to appropriate the body and the wealth of the "sick man" in Turkey; had he not been encouraged in his nefarious purpose by the knowledge that Lord

Aberdeen was a peaceable man and his friend, and by the unfounded notion that Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, two very eloquent and very influential members of the British Legislature, entertained opinions on the question of war which were in accordance with those of their countrymen, it is possible that Lord Aberdeen's Ministry would have deserved well of the country, and that Mr. Gladstone might have earned the reputation of an able financier and a wise statesman. But the inevitable war against Russia, for the preservation of Turkey and the independence of Europe, showed the real calibre of that fair-weather Administration. Unequal in every respect to the occasion; bunglers in every department of affairs, especially in those requiring skill, foresight, promptitude, and determination; unable even to comprehend the vastness of the conflict in which they had engaged; and expressing, even to the last, a belief in the generous intention of the Emperor of Russia, which under the circumstances was little better than silliness, they speedily lost the confidence of the country, and with it the confidence of Parliament. Questions of domestic importance, which at other times would have enlisted the lively sympathy of all classes of the people, lost in the presence of the war all interest and all hold upon the thoughts of the nation. By that section of politicians who would Japanise or Chinafy Great Britain the Parliament was blamed for partaking of this apathy, and for concentrating its attention upon the one great and permanent object of the war. But in this respect Parliament merely showed that it was equal to the emergency, and that it faith-



THE CASTEL NUOVO, AT NAPLES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

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fully reflected the opinions and cordially sympathised with the instincts and the feelings of the nation. Guardian of the public purse, it never begrudged the millions necessary for the vigorous prosecution of the war, and only visited the Ministry with its displeasure when it attempted to carry on such a struggle with insufficient means and with relaxing energies. When at the eleventh hour this vacillating and weak-minded Ministry fell, amid the satisfaction of all the friends, and the sorrow of all the foes of Great Britain, the late Parliament yielded to Lord Palmerston its most unhesitating support. There was but one question either for Ministers or for Parliament to consider, and that was the war, and the means of conducting it with the ancient valour and the ancient success of Englishmen. Both of them were equal to the occasion. The House of Commons, including all parties in it—with the sole exception of those crotchety peace-mongers whose sympathies are always elicited in favour of the nations or tribes, civilised or barbarian, with whom it may be the sad necessity of their own country to be at war—cordially supported the Minister; and in due time, and mainly as a consequence of his much-needed energy, peace was restored to Europe; and the fair fame of England, which the Continental despots asserted to have been tarnished, and which false friends in every part of the world strove to whisper away, was restored to its original brightness, and flashed in the face of the world with a splendour which its bitterest foes might lament, but which they found it impossible to deny.

If to Lord Palmerston be due some praise for this great result, it should not be forgotten, either in the last hours of the dying Parliament or in the historic page which will record its deeds when it is no more, that to the House of Commons, which so zealously supported him in his manly and wise policy, belongs an equal amount of gratitude. Of the praise justly due to them both the voice of faction cannot deprive either the Minister or the Parliament. Both may have had their shortcomings on minor matters, and on matters which would not have been minor in more tranquil times; but in the one great business which in the years 1855, 1856, and 1857 they had to perform, under the penalty of degrading and weakening their country in the estimation of the world, they acquitted themselves like virtuous citizens and wise statesmen.

If it be judged by this standard, the Parliament of 1852 ought to stand well in the estimation of the country. For sake of a result so noble it may be spared many of the reproaches which might otherwise be levelled against it. At times, and especially in the closing act of its existence, it was factious; but, taking it for all in all, it would be unjust to deny that it had generous emotions and patriotic principles; and that, in the most important event of our age, it acted upon them with promptitude, with dignity, and with success.

For its last unfortunate vote it has paid the penalty. If, as seems probable, the new Parliament will have all the sterling British honesty of the old, with a smaller sprinkling of such impracticable doctrinaires as Mr. Cobden, and of such foggy philosophers as Mr. Gladstone, who too often darken counsel with vain words, there will be nothing to regret, but very much to approve, in the sudden termination of its existence by its own suicidal act. Some of the idle babblers, and men of one idea, who were clogs upon the efficiency of the late House, will doubtless find their way to the next Parliament; but it will be something gained if, instead of sitting for metropolitan cities, for learned universities, or for populous and wealthy divisions of counties, they are driven into small decaying boroughs, where electors are few and public spirit is at its minimum.

There have been wiser Parliaments than the last, but it is a consolation to believe that the next will be a better, and that, with peace in Europe, our domestic as well as our foreign policy will try its capacities and elicit its statesmanship.

THE CASTEL NUOVO, AT NAPLES.

The Castel Nuovo, which is the principal object in our sketch, is one of the most interesting relics of mediæval architecture in Naples. It was built, or begun, in the thirteenth century, by Charles I., who was tired of his residence in the Castel Capuano, now the prisons of the Vicaria. A convent of Franciscan friars once stood on the site of the castle; but the walls of the monastery were dismantled in 1294, and replaced by the more warlike walls of the castle. From that time it has borne the name of the Castel Nuovo. It has five principal towers, which are now inclosed within the castle. The strong outer works were built under Alphonso II. about the middle of the fifteenth century. The triumphal arch of this Sovereign is perhaps more deserving of observation for the history of design than any other object in the city. If not remarkable for the purity of its art, it is for its grandeur; and it recalls those times when Italian commerce was widely extended, when the press was beginning to assert its gigantic power, and those great architectural efforts were made the true expression of awakening mind. Without, however, criticising in detail this castle, so well deserving minute attention, it may be mentioned that within or about its precincts are included the Military Armory, the Arsenal for Artillery, the Royal Foundry, and the Marine Arsenal. There is a communication between it and the Royal Palace; and thus in one spot are concentrated not only the Sovereign, but that which is necessary to the assertion of his authority.

Of little use in modern warfare, the Castel Nuovo is formidable only against the inhabitants of the city, and of late years great attention has been given towards utilising it in this way. Cannon threaten the entire neighbourhood around. They point downwards through the populous street called Bassa Porta towards the Largo Castello, where the artist is standing; and as if this were not enough a parapet has been erected on the "Grand Guard," and the houses in the foreground of the picture, behind which the soldier can pour forth their volleys of musketry. These are interesting proofs of the success of the actual system of Government, and of the contentment and happiness of the Neapolitan! We have heard of such a proverb as "killing with kindness." Surely the proverb had its birth in Naples. On the opposite side to that which is presented in the Sketch the view is towards the sea. On the right of it is the Royal Palace, and on the left the façade faces the popular quarter of the Bassa Porta, the most characteristic and lazzaronesca quarter of all Naples.

In the Darsena, or Marine Arsenal, are at the present moment employed and imprisoned 205 criminals; for the Darsena, which lies under the Palace windows, is one of the bagni of the kingdom.

An affray occurred in Washington the other day, in which Mr. David Hume, a merchant of Alexandria, Virginia, was shot dead by Colonel Lee, a clerk in the Pension-office. The occurrence grew out of a misunderstanding at the President's levee the night before, in which Colonel Lee accused Mr. Hume of picking his pocket.

A Paris letter in the *Independence* states that a play written by Alexandre Dumas in twenty-four hours is about to be performed at the residence of M. de Girardin and that M. Dumas, who boasts of being the best cook in France, is to superintend the preparation of the dinner which is to precede the performance.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

In Paris we have a sort of Lent in the daytime, and a sort of Carnival at night. The churches where the preachers in vogue hold forth, chiefly on the eventualities of the day, are crowded; the salons are equally well filled of an evening; and the *Lanciers* have lost little ground since Ash Wednesday was supposed to put a veto on such pastimes.

Great attention is being excited by the sermons of the Père Ventura, in the chapel of the Tuileries. The Sunday before last he commenced by announcing his intention of delivering, not a religious, but a political discourse. In this he denounced Greece and Rome as the originators of all the crimes and all the evils of the present century, by the universal spirit they have infused into the existing generations. This is certainly a somewhat far-fetched explanation of the state of affairs of our day, which the reverend Father pronounces to be so utterly vitiated, "that if the angels came down on the earth they would reascend to heaven corrupted." Although the sermons in question are preached before the Emperor, the Père Ventura hesitates not to enter fully on such questions as the duties of Princes, the origin of power, flatterers, punishments, rewards, &c., and to discuss them without any especial ménagements for the positions of his audience.

But the attraction, the topic of the day, is the American spirit. medium, Mr. Hume, who, it is asserted by those who believe in him, produces the most remarkable manifestations that have yet been displayed by an operator of this sort, and who is at the summit of favour at the Tuileries.

It appears that the Empress's patience being exhausted by the enormous charges of her dressmaker, milliner, &c., she has hit upon a plan which, it is supposed, will lighten these expenses—namely, the establishing in the Tuileries of an atelier for the making up of all her dresses, cloaks, bonnets, coiffures, &c., under her own eye. This will also help to satisfy the desire her Majesty complains of the impossibility of fulfilling, that of visiting the fashionable shops where such articles are displayed to any number of her Majesty's subjects who chose to go and look at them.

There is great talk of the *Revue de Deux Mondes* being purchased by M. de Girardin, at the price of 600,000 francs, though some declare that M. de Girardin is not likely, on his side, to give that sum; while others assert that M. Buloz, the present proprietor, would be by no means disposed to accept it, which view decidedly complicates the chances of a satisfactory arrangement. Alexandre Dumas has written a piece which is shortly to be performed at the house of M. de Girardin.

The affair of M. de Dreux Brezé continues to excite the greatest attention; and Monseigneur Menjaud, Bishop of Nancy, First Almoner to the Emperor, has been sent to Rome with a mission, not, as was supposed, respecting the coronation, but to obtain the Pope's approval of the measures proposed by the Imperial Government in the matter.

A curious instance of the force of popular prejudice has just occurred near Evreux. Many of the French peasants live in the conviction that the cause of the potato disease lies in the vapour from the railroad locomotives; and last week a labourer, approaching the line as the train from Caen was passing, deliberately fired a pistol at one of the stokers, who fortunately escaped unhurt. The man has been arrested.

Mdme. Ristori is expected here in April to resume her performances at the Italian Opera House. Our space does not admit of our speaking at the length we would desire on the "Fiammina" of M. Mario Uchard (husband of Mdme. Madeleine Brohan), given last week at the Théâtre Français. A first work, it possesses, with the freshness of a young hand, all the merit of composition, construction, finish, and effect of the most experienced dramatic author, and has a soundness of principle, and a healthy tone of feeling, and, for the most part, of morality, very seldom met with in the modern French school of writing.

FRANCE AND THE PAPAL STATES.

A very remarkable State paper, regarding the relations of France and Rome, has made its appearance. This document, which has been communicated to the *Daily News*, occupies nearly six columns of that journal, so that we are precluded from giving it in our circumscribed space. The French Envoy at Rome, deeply impressed with the belief that the various Cabinets of Europe are intensely preoccupied with the situation of the Pontifical States, and believing that the question is greatly obscured by party misrepresentations, thinks it may be useful to give "a truthful and impartial review of the facts," for the benefit of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The view which the French Envoy takes of the Italian question may be briefly stated. He does not attempt to deny that there is great dissatisfaction with the present state of things. Many causes have led to this. The Papacy is not as wealthy as it was in past ages. "During the two last centuries the general prosperity of the Pontifical system, and the abundant resources which flowed to Rome from all parts of the world, silenced complaint. But the great changes which have taken place in Europe during the last fifty years have dried up the sources of Rome's affluence. The Church has been compelled to remain contented with the revenue derived exclusively from its own territory. [What a melancholy change!] Hence discomfort, which, increasing from year to year, leads the minds of men by an easy process to discuss and attack the acts of their Government." This is so exceedingly naïve, and goes so far to explain the weakness of the poor old Papacy, which cannot stand without "the armed protection with which France and Austria surround the holy chair," that we may pass over those political speculations of the writer in which he endeavours to show that Italy is utterly unfit for self-government. While recognising the widespread disaffection which prevails throughout the peninsula, the French official is utterly unable to suggest any remedy. In the Papal States the people are generally comfortable, he affirms. "The condition of the people is that of comparative ease. They rush together in crowds at the first signal of public rejoicing or pleasure. . . . Gaiety of the most expansive kind is to be traced on the features of all." Why, then, should any true patriot bawl for reform?

As regards the future of Italy, the French Envoy, while he holds out no hope of relief from any quarter, seems to entertain the most gloomy forebodings of a coming storm.

I do not think that all the questions of this world must necessarily have a definitive solution. The Roman question, in my opinion at least, has none. We can only, exercising a benevolent and attentive protection, avert the dangers of a catastrophe, and prolong a provisional state of things which has at least the grand merit of preserving Europe from innumerable evils.

Any other order of measures would only precipitate events. If his Majesty's Government, from motives easily comprehended, should desire to put a stop to the French occupation of the Roman States after a delay of greater or less duration, it would be better at once to abandon the sluices to the impulse of the torrent than to open them by dealing, either by means of advice openly given, or by forced combinations, the *coup de grace* to the temporal power of the Popes.

In the presence of the existing agitation of mind in Italy, and of the very lively emotion caused by the publication of the protocols, it is impossible to keep down a profound feeling of anxiety as to the future destiny of the Papacy. If care is not taken Europe will see the most terrible of problems present itself—terrible, in fact, because it is connected with the deepest and the most ardent passions of the human heart.

The words pronounced by your Excellency in the Conference, the assurance you have given of the interest which the Emperor's Govern-

ment will not cease to take in the safety of the Pontifical power, are certain proofs that the true interests of the Church are in no danger in the present crisis. With such a programme the most imminent dangers may be removed and the catastrophe delayed. This is all that can be accomplished at the present moment by human wisdom. Let us continue to give the Papacy the benefit of our protection. Let us decide deliberately only, and after successive diminutions, on complete evacuation, and only after being well assured that it is possible. Calm will come by degrees. Finally, if the political and religious tranquillity of Italy—perhaps even of Europe—should appear to depend solely on the presence at Civita Vecchia and Ancona of a few hundred men, giving a moral, rather than a material, support to the Pontifical flag and establishment, but still a support which is sufficient, is it not a hundred times better to have recourse to this certain remedy than to attempt to obtain similar ends by ways full of peril? If in such circumstances the temporal power of the Papacy should be menaced anew, and if, in spite of our efforts, grave complications should arise, the responsibility would then at least rest wholly and entirely on events which are often stronger than man, and we should not have to reproach ourselves with having contributed to so fatal a result.

THE WAR WITH CHINA.

The news from Hong-Kong comes down to January 30th, at which date trade was at a standstill, the attention of the European inhabitants being chiefly directed to means for their protection against the Chinese. Allum, the alleged bread-poisoner, and his associates, were to be tried immediately. Public expectation was directed to the arrival of anticipated naval and military reinforcements, and the recommencement of offensive operations. Her Majesty's steamer *Sampson* arrived at Hong-Kong on the morning of the 23rd of January, having on board Admiral Sir M. Seymour, who is reported to have forwarded to India urgent despatches for a large military force. The *Sampson*, on her way down to Hong-Kong, fell in with a fleet of 150 Mandarin junks, and destroyed several of them. These junks had threatened an attack on Hong-Kong. With the exception of retaining Tee-to-tun fort, it appears that Admiral Seymour has been forced to abandon Canton. Even the intrenched gardens could no longer be retained, as all the available force is required to keep open the passage of the river, in consequence of the wilful sinking of junks to prevent any vessels of war or steamers passing up with troops. Whampoa has been completely abandoned, her Majesty's ship *Sybilie* having been removed. All the valuable property, as dock-yards, &c., had been abandoned to the Chinese, who were destroying everything of value.

THE BURNING OF CANTON.

(From the Hong-Kong Register.)

The *Barracouta* arrived from Canton on the morning of the 15th of January, bringing some wounded men and one officer of the 59th Regiment, also news of the destruction of a great part of the city of Canton by fire.

Early on Monday morning (January 12) there was a simultaneous movement amongst the boats of the squadron and of the Dutch Fort, leaving their respective ships with strong-armed parties of marines and blue-jackets. They landed at different parts of the suburbs from the eastern end of the Chincheu Hong to the timber-yards above the Samen pack-houses. The *Barracouta* had moved up abreast of a small fort opposite the Fa-tee creek, the *Encounter* at some distance above the boom, and the *Niger* in her old anchorage, off the Factory gardens. The boats retired a little distance from the shore, to protect the working parties, who advanced into the narrow streets with torches and fireballs, and soon commenced the work of destruction; the houses, being for the most part built of wood along the banks of the river, soon caught fire, a good breeze impelling the flames to the stronger buildings in the rear. In less than an hour the vast tract of suburbs above mentioned was on fire, the clouds of smoke stretching over Homan Island. The flames were stirred up now and then by shot and shell from the ships. The Dutch Folly was very successful with some carcasses, which set fire to several houses within the city, clearing a space of about 250 yards near the Yamun. The *Barracouta's* firing was very rapid for some time, caused, as was afterwards learned, by the attack of some Mandarin soldiers who, secreted behind some ruins, kept up a practice of jingal firing till compelled to make a hasty retreat. Meantime a party of the 59th Regiment, amounting to seventy men, under Captain Bushe, repaired, as they thought, to their allotted quarter, and were proceeding to destroy some houses; but, instead of going to the left of Hog-lane, they unfortunately went to the right, and soon found themselves under the city walls. It was always a difficult matter to find one's way through those narrow streets in the rear of the factories, now doubly so, from the state of ruin in which they are, blocked with the debris of fallen houses: piled brick and barricades thrown up in all directions, and a number of houses near the walls pulled down during the burning of the factories, rendered the passage intricate and difficult. On reaching the walls they were assailed by a volley of stones and a discharge of matchlocks and jingals. Two men were killed, and an officer (Mr. Statham) wounded; the men were compelled to retreat. It would have been madness to attempt burning the houses in the face of such an overwhelming force. The dead men were left behind, and with them the drummer, who was supposed to have been killed; it happened, fortunately for him, that he was but stunned from the effects of a blow on the head from a heavy brick. On partially recovering his senses he found himself lying at a little distance from his dead comrades; but still scarcely able to move. Some kindhearted Chinese drew him the way his comrades had gone. Scarcely was he within the door when he saw some Chinese soldiers rush from a street and cut the heads off the dead men. He waited no longer, but made a bold dash to the gardens, which he reached, notwithstanding the hot pursuit after him. The Braves kept up a fire of matchlocks on him, a ball from one of which knocked the sword from his hand, wounding his thumb severely. The fire continued raging the whole of Monday night and a part of Tuesday, and has done an immense amount of damage. On Monday afternoon the *Barracouta* was sent down to Whampoa to remove the *Sybilie* and Spanish steamer *Don Jorge Juan* from that deserted and dangerous anchorage. The *Fai-ma*, *Mirage*, *Lily*, and *Spark* steamers were busily employed in towing chops and ships down to the second bar, where they anchored near the ships of war on Tuesday night. A good deal of American property still remains at Whampoa. The *San Jacinto* was fully expected up from Hong-Kong, if not to remove at least to protect it, as the church and many other chops are sure to be pillaged or destroyed as soon as John Chinaman knows he will not receive opposition. The *Acorn* is anchored at Hamilton Creek; the *Hornet* above the barrier. She has sunk in the entrance to a troublesome creek a large junk, seized a few days since by the *Barracouta*, well armed and filled with stinkpots and various other combustibles.

Early yesterday morning (Jan. 14), before five o'clock, the Chinese commenced an attack on the Dutch Fort by a discharge of rockets from the city. It did not last very long, the rocket party being quickly dislodged from their position by the capital shelling of Lieutenant Dent, who we are happy to say has returned to his duty in good health.

From the continual firing in the Dutch Fort the walls and buildings have been much shaken. They are very small and rather comfortable. There is a rumour afloat that it will be deserted and blown up in a few days for the stronger position of Bird's Nest Fort, which will become headquarters. It is already garrisoned by the marines of the *Sybilie*. The gardens also, it is said, will be vacated, being no longer worth holding when there is a more advantageous position at hand, and the gardens can be regained easily whenever it seems prudent to the Admiral. We may soon expect the appearance of a reinforcement of troops and ships of war, when a new light will dawn on the dim and obtuse eyes of old Yeh. The packhouses were spared about Samen on Monday. Not so the Chincheu hong, which were all burned to the ground. King-qua is one of the principal losers.

WHOLESALE POISONING AT HONG-KONG.

The following account of the poisonings is from the *Hong-Kong Register*—

In an extra we published on Thursday last we had just time to call attention to the fact that an attempt had been made to poison all the consumers of bread supplied by a Chinese baker. This has naturally caused great stir and excitement during the week, and been the fertile cause of many rumours, true or false. The following is, as nearly as we can collect, a statement of facts. We believe it is the custom of the Parsees and other natives of India to eat an early first breakfast. Early on the morning of Thursday a medical gentleman resident with us was called upon to prescribe for several Parsees and Moormen labouring under the effects of what appeared to be poison. As the persons applying were from different houses, and having servants of their own country, the only suspicious article was, naturally, the bread supplied to them from the Easing shop, a Chinese bakery. As the morning advanced numerous cases of sickness occurred, and our attention was so much occupied in giving what assistance we could render that we were unusually late in breakfasting, owing to which, the cause of the sickness being apparent, we escaped it by not eating any bread. After being tolerably satisfied of the nature of the case, our first course was to go to the police and report it, and advise that every man in the Easing shop should be arrested. The arrest was effected after some time, the persons taken into custody amounting to forty-nine; but Allum, the principal partner, and his family—consisting of himself, his father, son, two women, and children—were found to be missing, and on inquiry it was discovered that the whole family had started for Macao in the *Shamrock* at eight a.m. From various sources we learned that Allum had been busily engaged the previous day in settling up long-outstanding accounts which parties had dunned him to settle up for months before. One of these parties was one of the owners of the steamer *Shamrock*, and during the arrangement of the accounts Allum was particularly anxious to be assured of a passage for his family to Macao

the next morning. Suspicion immediately alighted more particularly on him. Had it depended on our Government to pursue and capture him he would have escaped, but for a want of precaution on his part (supposing him to be the guilty man). The steamer *Shamrock* had been supplied with the bread from the Easing shop, and all who partook of it experienced the same effects as the parties on shore; this aroused the suspicions of the captain of the steamer, Mr. Antonio (formerly of the *Endeavour* lorch), and he, knowing he had the baker on board, retained him and his family, believing that the bread delivered in Hong-Kong would be of the same kind, and that all supplied with it would have been poisoned. A very active private citizen, Mr. W. M. Robinet, did what the Government should have done, and chartered a private steamer, the *Spark*, which got under way at eleven o'clock, and reached Macao from two to three hours after the *Shamrock*. Mr. Robinet, finding Allum detained on board that vessel, had him arrested, and he was delivered over by the Macao authorities to the police officers sent after him in the *Queen*, and he was brought back next day in the *Shamrock*. There was naturally a great excitement, but Lynch law is out of the question, for many reasons, in this colony; and so the prisoner is undergoing the usual examination before the magistrate.

The atrocious attempt has, we are thankful to say, failed in every case, and, although two or three hundred people must have partaken of the poisoned food, no lives have been lost. Many suffered very severely—none more so than the family of Sir John Bowring—Lady Bowring more particularly. Two children who were incautiously allowed to eat some of the bread a second time were at one time in considerable danger. A careful analysis by the medical men of the colony has shown that the poison was arsenic.

KAFFIR CIVIL WAR.—TREMENDOUS SLAUGHTER.

By the mail-steamer *England*, which arrived at Dartmouth on Tuesday last, we have news from Natal relating to the disturbances among the Zulus. These disturbances were caused by a contest between Ketchwya and Umbulazi, two sons of the paramount Chief Panda. On the 2nd of December the latter was defeated with immense slaughter. The victorious Ketchwya, a lad of nineteen, after the battle divided his army into three sections, and with these scoured the country in all directions, putting to death not only his enemies, but also all neutral or doubtful subjects who came in his way. He, however, kept clear of the immediate vicinity of Panda, who, by the latest intelligence, was raising an army in defence of his throne. It is said that the number of persons slaughtered by the victors must have been upwards of 30,000.

The latest accounts, which appear to be reliable as to the great fact, though somewhat confused in detail, state that Panda had recovered his power by ceding a large portion of territory to the Boers, who were assisting him against his rebellious son.

Yesterday afternoon (says the *Natal Mercury* of Dec. 27) a Dutch farmer named Van Staden came in direct from the Upper Zulu border, and brought the somewhat startling intelligence that Panda has made over to the Boers the Zulu country from the Tugela to the White Umvulosi River and the sea, under a treaty of protection to Panda, who is to be guaranteed in the possession of his nominal sovereignty. The large slice of the Zulu country thus ceded, comprises the most healthy and fertile portion of the whole, flanking the Natal border along its entire length, and having a commercial outlet on the coast at St. Lucia Bay. We have not heard what is to be done with Ketchwya, but presume he will share the fate of the weaker, now that a stronger than he has taken the field. The Boers, it is stated, are hunting him from his hiding-place. Boers came in to the number of from 400 to 500—strong enough to dictate their own terms; and we understand the ceded country will be speedily occupied by a large number of settlers from the Buffalo district and the more remote and inconvenient districts of the Transvaal. This new turn in Zulu affairs considerably complicates the difficulties of our colonial statesmanship, though we do not in the least apprehend that it increases, but rather diminishes, the danger of inroad or collision.

PERSIA.

From the Gulf our news extends up to the 23rd ult.—the *Pioneer*, which arrived here (says the *Bombay Times*) on the 4th inst., having left Bushire on that date.

No further military operations had taken place, and the interest of the intelligence from this quarter is greatly diminished by the Treaty of Peace.

INDIA.

The conferences between Dost Mahomed Khan and Sir John Lawrence broke up on the 28th January, on which day the former took leave of our Plenipotentiary for his own dominions; and the belief is very general that the Dost has given his consent to the establishment of a British Residency at Candahar. A melancholy occurrence took place on the evening of the 27th ult., which certainly was a sad finale to the Dost's visit. Four officers rode out towards the Dost's camp, and, when about a mile from it met some men, to all appearance in charge of cattle. It, however, turned out that they were Afreedees, and, as soon as the officers passed, the natives turned round and gave them a volley, and immediately bolted into the pass (the officers were unarmed). Lieutenant Hand, 51st Native Infantry, was mortally wounded, and, after riding a short distance towards the Dost's camp, fell; he lived about an hour after he was brought in. The Dost's people made a litter and carried him into the camp formed near the Khyber.

AMERICA.

The Royal mail-steamer *Asia* arrived at Liverpool on Sunday last, bringing files from New York to the 4th instant.

The inaugural address of the new President, which had been expected by this arrival, has not come to hand. The *New York Daily News* of the 4th thus accounts for the disappointment:—"We learn from Washington that the inaugural address of the President elect will not be put in the hands of the printers until to-morrow, consequently it cannot be received through the mails in season for publication on Thursday morning. There being but one wire working between this city and Washington—the masts of the Morseline having been blown down at the Susquehanna River on Monday—it will not be possible to receive in season for publication in the evening editions more than a brief abstract of the address, but we shall hope to receive the full document over the wires in season for our edition of Thursday morning."

The Cabinet of Mr. Buchanan, it seems, will be composed of the following individuals, and probably under the following arrangement:—State Department: Lewis Cass, Michigan. Treasury Department: Howell Cobb, Georgia. Interior Department: Jacob Thompson, Missouri. War Department: John B. Floyd, Virginia. Navy Department: Aaron V. Brown, Tennessee. Postmaster-General: J. Glancy Jones, Pennsylvania. Attorney-General: Isaac Toucey, Connecticut.

Washington was in a state of the greatest excitement, in anticipation of the ceremony of inauguration. A telegraphic despatch of the 3rd, in the *New York Herald*, says:—"The avenues are densely crowded with citizens and strangers of both sexes, notwithstanding the cold. An immense number are at the Capitol, and still greater numbers are wending their way thither. The hotels and private boarding-houses are overflowing, and many persons, doubtless, will pass the night in the streets. This is probably the greatest influx of visitors ever known. Some minor fights have occurred, but nothing serious is likely to take place. Expectation is on tiptoe for to-morrow."

The Burdell murder has not lost its interest. A clergyman—the Rev. Mr. Marvin—had deposed, before the surrogate, to the marriage of the deceased to Mrs. Cunningham, one of the parties charged with the murder. It has been reported that Governor King has sent written directions to the district attorney, requiring him to take the necessary legal measures for the removal of Dr. Connery from his office as coroner. The charges upon which the Governor has proceeded in this matter have, it is said, been drawn up by Mr. Clinton, counsel for Mr. Cunningham, and are based upon the course of conduct he pursued in the investigation of the circumstances attending the death of Dr. Harvey Burdell. The coroner is, it appears, to be impeached, on the ground of incompetency and improper conduct; but he is determined to contest to the last the power and authority of the Governor, and for that purpose has already engaged counsel.

DEATH OF UNCLE TOM.—The *Indianapolis Journal* mentions the death in that city of Thomas Magruder, an old negro, aged 110 years. He is supposed to have been the one who suggested the name and the leading features of the character in Mrs. Stowe's novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." This supposition is based on the coincidence of name and character, and on the fact (says the *Journal*) that Henry Ward Beecher during his residence here was a constant visitor of Uncle Tom's, well acquainted with his history, and a sincere admirer of his virtues. We have been told that Mrs. Stowe herself sometimes called to see the old man. Uncle Tom's Cabin, so, was the name of his house among all his acquaintances, and was a familiar phrase here long before Mrs. Stowe immortalised it. At all events we know that it is the impression with all the friends of Mrs. Stowe and her brother in this city that old Uncle Tom was the original, or at least the suggestion, of the hero of the "Cabin."

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

GOVERNMENT ARTISANS AND EMIGRATION.—Upwards of 2000 workmen in various departments of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, having received notice to leave, in accordance with the reductions in the last army estimates, a memorial, adopted at a large meeting of the men held in the Paper-mill at the Royal Arsenal, has been forwarded to Lord Palmerston, and strongly recommended by the heads of the departments. The memorialists say that they are out of employment, and add:—"Your memorialists, therefore, humbly beg your Lordship will be pleased to interest yourself in procuring from Government the grant of a free passage, with rations and the use of necessary stores, for a voyage for themselves and families to the Canadas, Australia, or elsewhere." The above memorial has received the favourable consideration of the War-office, and it is confidently believed that the means of free emigration will be provided for the whole of the men.

THE HOSTILITIES AT CANTON.—On Monday morning the deputation appointed by the meeting which was held in the City on Friday waited upon Lord Palmerston at Cambridge-house, for the purpose of formally presenting to him the resolution adopted on that occasion. The Lord Mayor, having introduced the deputation, handed in the resolution. Lord Palmerston said it gave him great satisfaction to find that the course that had been adopted by her Majesty's Government with regard to late events had met with the approbation of so great a commercial community as that of the city of London. He regretted that the House of Commons should have come to an adverse vote on the motion of the hon. member for the West Riding; but, such being the case, no other course than that which the Government had adopted was open for them to follow for the protection of life and our great commercial interests in China. The Government had thought it right to protect the servants of the Crown in China in the course they had adopted, from a conviction that had any other Ministry been in power they would have acted in a precisely similar manner. The Government, in consequence of the adverse vote referred to, had thought it necessary to appeal to the country; and he was proud to hear that a city possessing so great and so many interests as the city of London should have thus testified its approbation of the conduct of the Government. The deputation then withdrew.

FATE OF LEICHAARDT, THE AUSTRALIAN EXPLORER.—Mr. Samuel Sidney, author of "The Three Colonies of Australia," will read on Monday evening next to the Geographical Society a paper on the probable fate of Dr. Leichardt, the Australian explorer, communicated to him by a party of squatters in the Wide Bay District, in the extreme north of the province of New South Wales.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF ST. PATRICK.—The seventy-fourth anniversary festival of this excellent charitable institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday last. The Marquis of Londonderry presided, supported by the Earl of Annesley, Viscount Massarene and Ferrard, Lord Dufferin, Sir Cusack P. Roney, Mr. Commissioner Murphy, &c. From a report which was distributed round the room it appeared that the income of the society during the past year had amounted to £1812 2s. 10d. The subscriptions for the evening amounted to upwards of £750.

HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The ninth anniversary festival of this charity was held at the London Tavern on Wednesday, when upwards of 200 gentlemen sat down to dinner, which was served in the usual style of that establishment. Earl Granville presided, supported by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Mr. Sheriff Keats, Dr. Livingstone, Mr. H. E. Gurney, Mr. J. Dillon, &c. The annual report states that the total receipts since last year were £5812, of which there had been expended £3812 for current expenses, and £1999 in liquidation of outstanding claims on account of the building and furnishing of the hospital. The toast of "Success to the charity" was most warmly responded to—Mr. S. Gurney subscribing 250 guineas; Mr. H. E. Gurney, 250 guineas; and Overend, Gurney, and Co., 100 guineas. The total subscription amounted to £3720, exclusive of legacies of £677.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The total number of deaths registered in London, which in the previous week was 1175, was, in the week that ended Saturday last, 1156. The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 488. Of the 1156 persons who died, 573 were males and 583 females. Last week the births of 858 boys and 736 girls—in all 1644 children—were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56 the average number was 1606.

MOTHER AND FOUR CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.—A fire, involving the destruction of a large amount of property, and the loss of five lives, happened about nine o'clock last Tuesday night at No. 8, St. Mary's-terrace, Walworth-road, a millinery depot. On the fire being discovered some one injudiciously broke open the door, which caused the flames to spread in every direction round the place, cutting off all escape for Mrs. Rayner and the four children. Mrs. Rayner previously succeeded in bringing down one of her children, and she then returned, regardless of her own life, to endeavour to save the other four. Unfortunately the nearest escape was at the corner of the London-road, about a mile and a half distant. The moment the news reached the station the conductor started with his escape, and arrived before an engine. He then found the flames belching forth from several of the windows, but he at once placed the machine between the burning premises and the adjoining house. When he had got halfway up the flames rushed through another window, igniting the escape, and he was obliged to descend. The fire was not extinguished until the house was nearly burnt out.

THE DOUBLE MURDER AT WALWORTH.—On Wednesday last Thomas Fuller Bacon and Martha Bacon, his wife, who have been in custody for several weeks, charged with the murder of Edwin Fuller Bacon, aged two years and a half, and Sarah Ann Bacon, aged eleven months, were brought from Horsemerger-lane Gaol to Lambeth Police Court, for final examination before Mr. Elliott. The evidence of the various witnesses having been read over, Mr. Elliott asked Mr. Woodward, who appeared on behalf of Bacon, if it was his wish to offer any remark before the commitment of his client. He replied that as his worship, as he understood, had made up his mind to send the case before a jury, he should reserve his defence. The prisoners were then committed for trial; and the chief clerk bound over the witnesses, thirty in number, to appear at the next session of the Central Criminal Court.

COUNTRY NEWS.

NEWSPAPER LITERATURE.—On Friday evening last Mr. J. F. Smyth delivered his second lecture on "The Rise and Progress of Newspaper Literature" to a numerous audience. He commenced by tracing the progress of newspapers from 1770—the period at which he had left off on a former occasion. The origin and development of the *Times*—that vast centre of intelligence—was dwelt on: its first issue; the then proprietor's novel idea of having whole words cast together; the jealousy of the men on the introduction of the steam-engine; the astonishment which the printing of 1100 copies per hour first created; its less astonishing ability to issue from 8000 to 10,000 per hour now; the arrangements in progress to increase its issue to 20,000 per hour; its enormous expenses; and the rapidity with which news is obtained from the outposts, especially from the mail-packets at Southampton. The public were able to read from the London papers the important news brought by the various packets before they had come up the Southampton waters; in fact, the Southampton people themselves often learnt the news brought by their own steamers from abroad first from the London papers. The *Stanford Mercury* was next alluded to, and a copy of its first number handed round the room. He quoted from the early numbers announcements of cock-fights, &c., showing the great repute that game was held in by some of our Lincolnshire forefathers. He next glanced at another newspaper—the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*—which, though later in the literary field, had established a good reputation and circulation, and was of universal interest. Its proprietor (Loud cheers) was a native of Boston, and afterwards went to Nottingham, where he conceived the idea of combining illustrations with news, and where he originated the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*. The first copy of this paper was also handed round the room, much to the gratification of the audience. Mr. Smyth observed, in reference of Mr. Ingram, that, having satisfied himself of the correctness of his calculations, he embarked in the enterprise, and by great judgment and unsparing liberality secured the immense weekly circulation of 160,000 copies! The weight of paper used, the staff employed, &c., were then noticed. After paying a high tribute to Mr. Ingram's character, energy, and usefulness, he expressed a hope that he might long continue to benefit his country.—*Boston Guardian*.

THE ART-TREASURES PALACE AT MANCHESTER.—A high wind on Saturday morning did considerable damage to this building by destroying portions of the glass which runs along the centre and most exposed part of the semicircular roof. At one time it was deemed desirable to withdraw the workmen employed inside from the danger to which they were exposed by the falling fragments of glass; but fortunately the wind abated towards noon, and the damage will easily be repaired.

FEMALE REFORMATORY.—The foundation-stone of a new reformatory and refuge for females was laid in the presence of a large concourse of spectators, on Monday last, at Exeter. The Mayor, Mr. W. Buckingham, performed the ceremony, and addresses were afterwards delivered by Sir M. Lopes, Mr. Milford, and Sir H. Northcote. Although there are many reformatory institutions for boys in different parts of the country there are but few for girls, and great difficulty has been experienced in placing girls convicted of offences in the county of Devon in reformatory schools. The want will now be soon supplied.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF THE WEST RIDING.—The Queen has appointed Lord Milton Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire, in the room of the Earl of Harewood, deceased.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

By the Constitution of this country Peers are not to interfere in Parliamentary elections. But there is no reason why a Peer who is the leader of a party should not try to influence, not "interfere" with, the course of the legitimate attendants on the hustings by means of "a few observations" to the other members of that body in the State who, in common with soldiers, must keep out of sight of polling-booths and returning officers. A "few observations," rightly interpreted, with due reference to the idiosyncrasy of the orator who proposes to utter them, means a speech two hours long, and which covers six acres—columns we mean—of a morning paper! Nobody, however, objects to listen to, and a great many persons do not object to read, even, such a specimen of a "few observations" when Lord Derby is the speaker.

Whether it was from a conscientious belief that they would in spirit be infringing a great principle of the Constitution by patronising an electioneering address from a Peer, or whether they were engaged in violating the letter of the law, by making election arrangements in their own districts, it is certain that the members of the House of Lords did not muster strongly to respond to Lord Derby's invitation on Monday. Although the attendance of strangers was large, yet even there was to be observed a symptom of the thinning which Town has undergone in the last few days. But, as usual, the constituencies of the Park, the Botanical Gardens, and the Opera, were duly represented in the Ladies' Galleries; and there were enough of foreign diplomatic eyes to stare at the way in which one public man and statesman can talk of another—and that other a First Minister—in a free Parliament and under a limited Monarchy.

Notably among the absent Peers was the Earl of Elgin, whose troublesome notice of motion on the state of our diplomatic relations with the United States disappeared with the suddenness of a pantomimic trick, from the Order-book of the House of Lords exactly at the moment that he kissed her Majesty's hand on his appointment as Minister Plenipotentiary to China. There was but one of the recent ecclesiastical "protégés" of the Premier present to listen to the portrait of a Palmerstonian Bishop as limned by Lord Derby; and, in truth, when his Lordship was painting them with a bold and vigorous grappling with his canvas worthy of a political Michael Angelo, the smooth youthful countenance of the Bishop of London was a study for a physiognomist. Let it, however, be understood that while Lord Derby's speech was essentially personal, simply because he took issue on the question of Lord Palmerston's personal claims on the country; though the ridicule was unsparing, and the sarcasm biting, yet the tone and manner were unusually divested of bitterness; indeed, he threw over his whole speech a colouring of good humour, which went far to make it bearable, even to those whom it most severely attacked. Even Mr. Vernon Smith laughed, as standing on the steps of the throne there was an unmistakable direction of every one's eyes at him when Lord Derby talked of the "appendages" of the Government. But, in truth, the noble Earl could hardly have been unconscious of that which almost every one must have felt as he went along, that in the elaborate picture of Palmerston's political career which he drew there was an involuntary description of a good deal of his own; and when he declared, as he did in fact, that so long as Lord Palmerston had no domestic policy he should receive the support of the Conservative party, it could not but be obvious that Lord Derby was, to a great extent, laying down his own principles of statesmanship. Nevertheless, the speech was a pleasant, and indeed an exciting, entertainment; and nobody who heard it but must have been willing to admit that when next Lord Derby made an oration he would be glad to be "there to hear."

There was among the positive strangers a good deal of incredulity when the Leader of the House of Lords was pointed out to them in the person of a mild boyish-looking—shall we say dumpy?—gentleman, who, in the dim distance of the Peers' Chamber, seems to be about eighteen years old. But the unenlightened stranger, who at first listened with dismay to the somewhat thick utterance of the champion who was to defend the Ministry against the slashing onslaught which had been just made against them, was relieved after the delivery of half a dozen sentences; and he heard with surprise, and afterwards with admiration, the sharp and telling reply which Lord Granville, who had been sitting calmly all the evening, and not taking a note, let drop in a calm, unexcited manner, which perhaps is only to be paralleled by Sir James Graham's way of saying severe things. Every point, and every sentence was a point, told. When an opponent, forgetful of the decorous regularity of debate, interrupts a speaker in full swing, only once, to make an explanation, it is to be supposed that he is not unobservant of the fact that his antagonist is making a hit. But when the same interruption is repeated two or three times, and when the person to whom the remarks in progress are applicable cannot sit still, but fidgets, and consults with his neighbours, and evidently instructs some friend what to say when he is to go in for his "innings," it is tolerably clear that the result of the discussion is not exactly that which was anticipated by its originator. The truth is that people who make personal attacks are proverbially thin-skinned; and Lord Granville very satisfactorily proved that the present head of the house of Derby is not exempt from that constitutional defect. In brief, though going rather out of his line—which is the sensible and humorous (slightly heavy, perhaps)—Lord Granville made an admirable and demolishing speech; which, if not exactly congenial to the ordinary atmosphere of the Upper House, was quite justified by the tone adopted by the initiator of the debate.

Every man is useful in some way or other; and one of the uses to which certain speakers in either House of Parliament are adapted is that valuable one of relieving the minds of the audience from undue tension, by interposing level and unexciting—perhaps we may say dull—speeches between the high-pressure addresses of the leaders. It was expected that Lord Malmesbury, who, in the exercise of his vocation, performed that valuable part in Monday's proceedings, would have been succeeded by Lord Ellenborough or Lord Grey, who both looked mischievous. But perhaps they were deterred by the very ominous look of the Duke of Argyll, who was evidently prepared to vindicate the position of the young blood of the Ministry. Whatever was the cause, there was a palpable collapse in the middle of Lord Malmesbury's speech—Peers went away, ladies vanished, and members of the House of Commons deserted their gallery—all of them, probably, influenced by the feeling that there was yet time for a regular, though late, dinner; and as the persistent and long-enduring Strangers' Gallery is not sufficient temptation to bring out the greater orators, they suffered the discussion to die away somewhat ingloriously.

During the time of the Great Exhibition of 1851 a caricature appeared, in which a spacious theatre was exhibited with three persons composing the audience and the manager from the stage earnestly entreating them to depart. The clearness with which emptiness of benches was brought out, and the idea of solitude and stillness which pervaded the picture, were exceedingly well managed. Now, the House of Commons during the last week would have afforded an excellent opportunity for just such a sketch.

S K E T C H E S I N C A S H M E R E .

In a recent number of the *Friend of India* the writer thus glances at the natural resources of this beautiful country, which, he regrets, are in great part lost to the people through acts of misgovernment:—

Nowhere has Nature lavished her gifts with a more bountiful hand than she has done in Cashmere. The valley has a climate wonderfully adapted for the European constitution—a climate varying, according to altitude, from the genial warmth of Italy to the frigid temperature of Lapland. The fruitful soil is capable of producing in abundance everything the heart of man can desire: rich meadows of lucerne and clover, watered by never-falling rills; gently undulating hill-sides covered with a sweet pasturage far excelling that of Australia. The mountains are clothed with magnificent timber, and are rich in mineral ores. There is a perfect natural inland water communication, connected by the Jhelum with Kurrachee. The water-power which descends from the circle of snow-capped mountains is sufficient to turn the wheels of all the manufactories and mills of the world. Cashmere is itself the high-road by which the merchant may send to the vast regions of Northern Asia the manufactures of England, the superabundant cereals of the valley, the sugar and spices of India, the salt of the Punjab; receiving in return their unrivalled wool, their borax, their furs, their gold-dust, as well as many other products of the mountains which Anglo-Saxon industry alone can develop.

The three accompanying characteristic Illustrations are from the sketch-book of a Correspondent. The larger view shows a picturesque group of ruins situated at the foot of the hills three miles east of the town of Islambad, on the north side of the



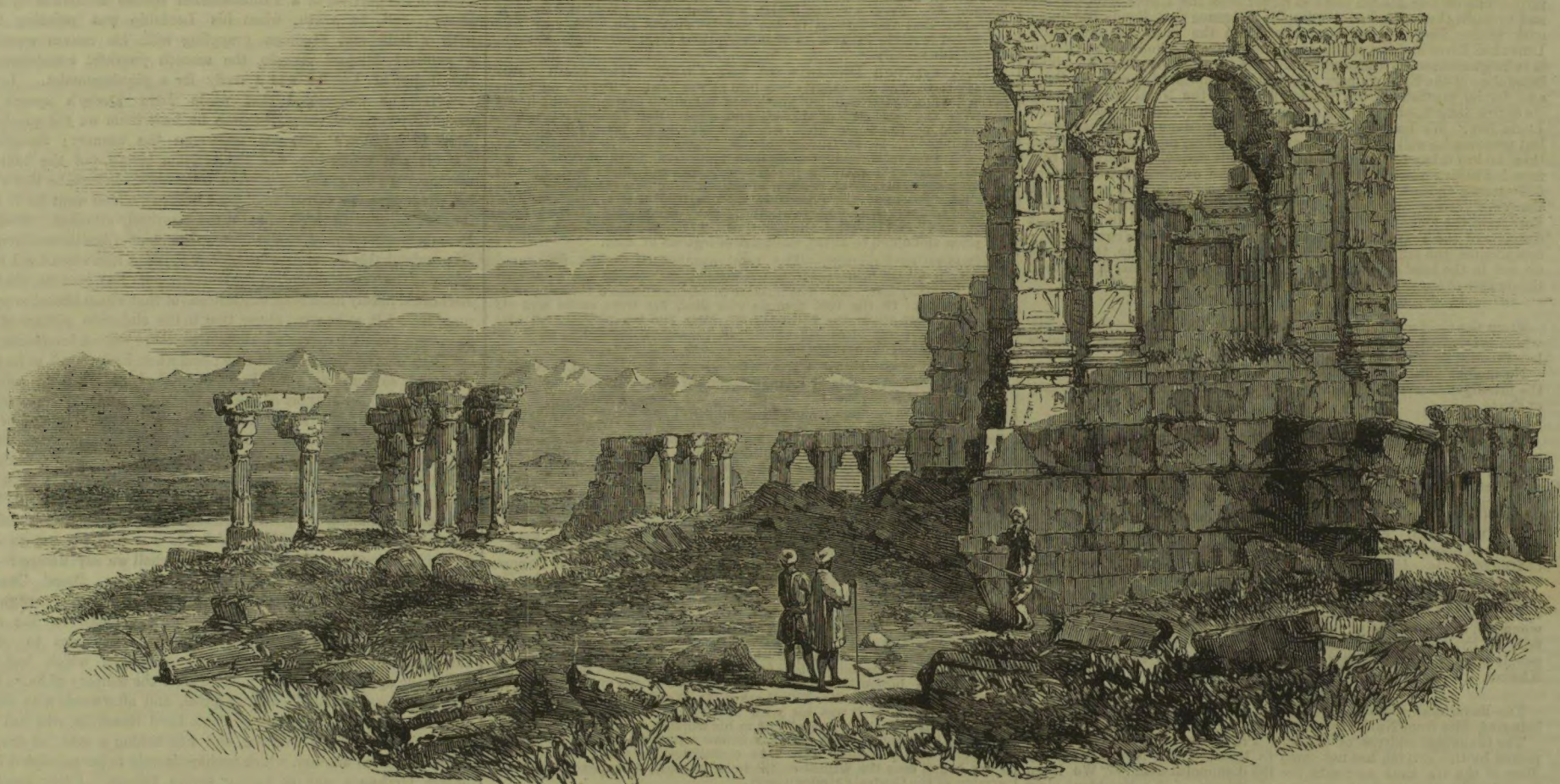
TARTAR OF LADAK, AND YARKUND PONY.

Behut, or Jhelum. In the town and neighbourhood are about 300 shops of shawl-weavers; and chintzes, coarse cottons, and woollens, are manufactured here. The ruins are the remains of a temple, said to be built 500 B.C. They consist of two large rooms, each about thirty feet long, surrounded by a quadrangular colonnade, about 100 yards square. The granite blocks of which the temple is built are of immense size; every particle has once been elaborately carved; but, notwithstanding the depth of the sculpture and hardness of the material, almost all the figures and hieroglyphics are effaced.

Beneath the illustration of the Temple ruins is shown the interior of a Lama Temple, with a prayer-wheel at work. These wheels are about ten feet high by eight or ten in diameter, made of large rolls of cloth, on which the Lama faith is written, and inclosed in a wooden case painted all over with facetious and not very correct representations of gods, devils, &c. They turn on a pivot, and are pulled round by a strap in the manner represented; the Lamas fancying themselves on the high road to heaven all the time, pulling day and night, and not having time in consequence to wash.

Major Cunningham, in his admirable work on Ladak, more minutely describes this prayer-wheel as he witnessed it in operation in that country:—

The prayer-cylinder, or *manichos-khor* (the precious religious wheel), is a very ingenious instrument, and does great credit to the genius of the Thibetians. The body of the instrument is a metal cylinder



RUINS OF ANCIENT TEMPLE, NEAR ISLAMBAD.

about three inches in height, and from two to two and a half inches in diameter. The axis is prolonged below to form a handle. The cylinder is filled with rolls of printed prayers and charms, which revolve as the instrument is turned round. Every Lama carries a *chhos-khor*, which he keeps perpetually turning by a gentle motion of the hand, assisted by a cubical piece of iron fastened by a chain to the outside. As every revolution of a prayer is equivalent to its recitation, the *chhos-khor* is a very ingenious instrument for multiplying the number of a man's prayers. * * These instruments are found of all sizes and in all positions. Cylinders about one foot in height are placed in rows around the temples, and are turned by the votaries before entering. Larger cylinders are found near villages, turned by water, which keeps them perpetually revolving.

The uppermost characteristic Sketch shows a Tartar of Ladak, mounted upon a Yarkund pony—the usual mode of journeying through these mountainous districts.

In addition to the long-haired bull, and the kiang, or Thibetian zebra, with horses and other animals of common species, Ladak produces the celebrated shawl-goat, yielding that curly, soft, and glossy wool used in the fabrication of the most costly shawls. The best kinds are only manufactured to order; but the commoner sorts are sold in Yarkund, at prices varying from £10 to £60 the pair. The number annually exported is usually about five hundred pairs, worth altogether £5000. The great sheep of Thibet, however, are its most valuable creatures, supplying food, clothes, and carriage.

It is lamentable to find the country blighted by the misrule of Gholab Singh, whose sole object



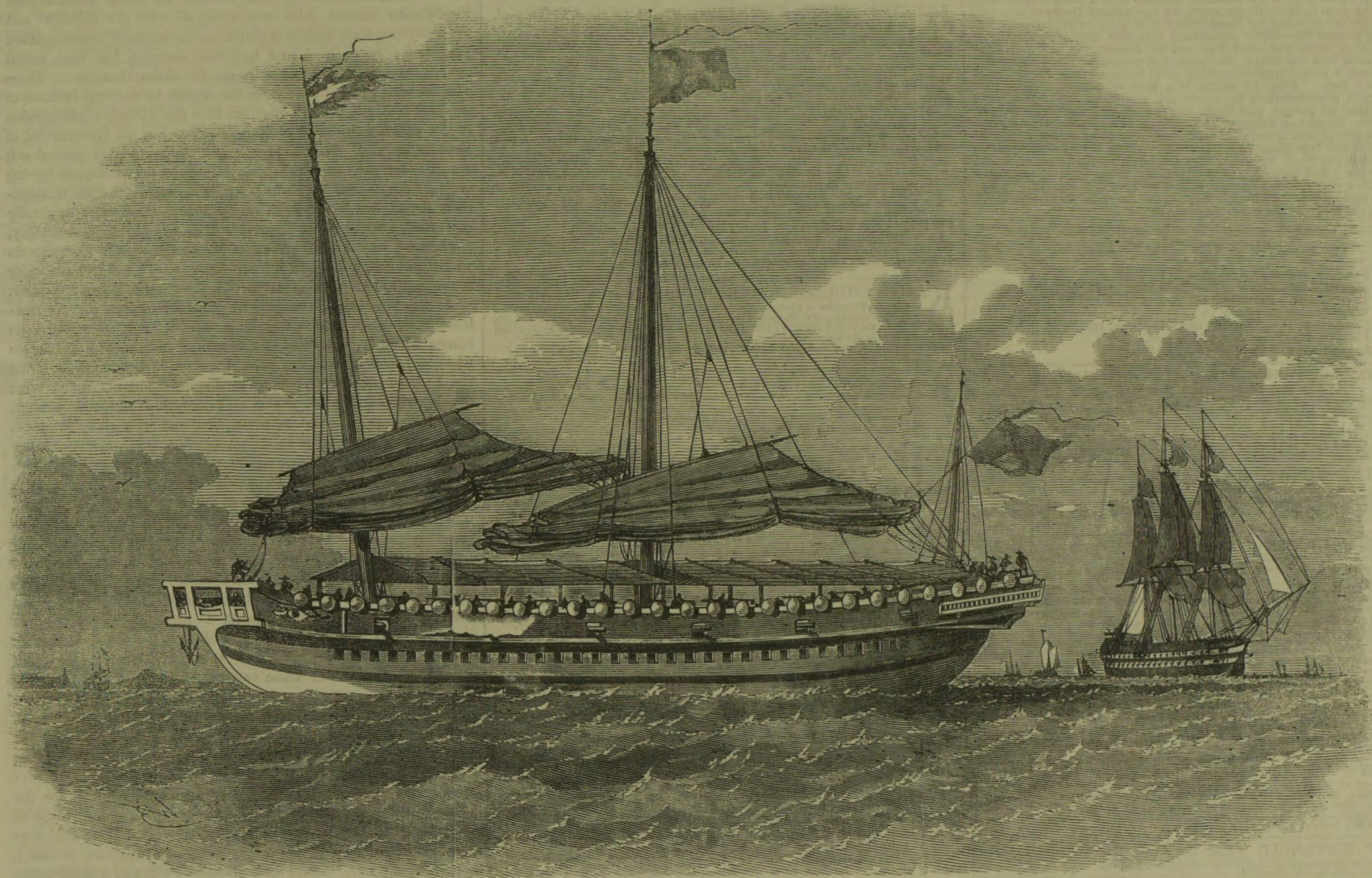
"PRAYER WHEEL," IN CASHMERE.

appears to be the increase of his private fortune:—

From the purchase of a Cashmere shawl to the sale of a basket of apples, from the auction of an elephant to the barter of a kid, no transaction can take place without payment of his commission. No native traveller can pass into or out of his territories without everything the man possesses passing through the taxgatherer's sieve. The pony he rides on, its saddle and bridle, the clothes he wears, the money in his purse, the ring in his wife's nose, all are rated as merchandise, and taxed accordingly. The gatherers plunder the trader at every river, at every pass, and at every town. Whole villages are deserted, the country not half cultivated, the grand high-road to Central Asia deserted, and the nations north of the Jhelum supplied by Russian traders. No observant traveller can pass through Cashmere—we write on the testimony of an eye-witness—without being struck by the woe-begone look of the population. No one ever sings in Cashmere. The bright clothes and natty turbans of the British cities are exchanged for mean and filthy garments. The trappings of the horses, the silver jewels for the women in which the citizens of Delhi and Agra, Umritsar and Mooltan, delight, are at Jummoo made of tinned iron.

The Lamas of the neighbouring regions of Thibet were but recently despoiled of their accumulated treasures, now stored up in forts to which no European is allowed access. Lamas without noses, coolies mutilated for attempting to escape, old sepoy reduced to starve after losing toes and fingers in the cold of Iskunder, appeal to the traveller, beseeching him to hasten the advent of the British raj. The people, crushed down to utter apathy, are ceasing even to toil, and in a few years the traditional arts of Cashmere will be almost extinct.

T H E W A R I N C H I N A .



CHINESE MODERN JUNK OF WAR: SECOND CLASS.

CHINESE VESSELS OF WAR.

In connection with this subject we this week illustrate the War-junks of China in past times, in comparison with those of the present day; showing the important advancement and extensive alteration that has taken place in the forms of the Chinese fighting vessels. Twenty years ago their ships of war were short, misshapen masses of timber, quaint and ungainly in appearance, almost unmanageable, and the wonder to seamen of other nations how a craft of the character of the junk was able to make headway, or combat the dangers and intricacies of the sea and coast. Since then the progress of naval architecture in China has advanced far beyond what the people of that country might have been given credit for; and, though still carrying out their eccentric tastes in the more prominent features of their vessels, the shipping of the present day is of excellent and sea-

worthy character. In the place of the deep-waisted craft of former times, with head and stem forming nearly a half-circle, they have now vessels in which this peculiarity is greatly modified, and in some vessels entirely dispensed with. In the lorchas, snake-boats, smuggling craft, pirate junks, and other boats peculiar to the China Seas, the lines of the vessels are of the most beautiful character, and they exhibit the greatest speed in all their movements and performances. The armament of war-junks, twenty years ago, consisted principally of matchlocks, mounted on the rails of the bulwarks; at the present time, the junks of the first class carry guns between decks, like our frigates, and of a calibre that has astonished the officers of H.M. ships now in their waters, many of the guns taken being larger in bore and weight of metal than any we manufacture in this country. Great improvements have also taken place in the material of their sails, and in the general handling of their vessels. But one great peculiarity in

the regular legitimate Chinese junk, outliving all other improvements and advances, is the large eye in the headboards of the vessel, without which the Chinese firmly believe that no vessel can see how to sail.

Travellers in China all agree that this extraordinary people are calculated and ought to be a great maritime nation. M. Huo, who has furnished us with one of the most interesting works extant on that country, says:—

China would present also inexhaustible resources for a navy. Without speaking of the vast extent of her coasts, along which the numerous population pass the greater part of their lives on the sea, the great rivers and immense lakes in the interior, always covered with fishing and trading junks, might furnish multitudes of men, habituated from their infancy to navigation—nimble, experienced, and capable of becoming excellent sailors for long expeditions. The officers of our ships of war that have visited the Chinese Seas have often been astonished to meet, far away



CHINESE REBELS.

from any coast, their fishermen braving the tempests, and guiding their miserable vessels in safety over enormous waves that threatened every moment to swallow them. The Chinese would very soon be able to build vessels on the model of those of Europe, and a few years would enable them to put to sea with such a fleet as has never been seen.

No doubt the reader will think the notion of this immense army, this avalanche of men descending from the high tableland of Asia, as in the time of Tchinggis Khan, these innumerable Chinese vessels ploughing all seas, and coming even to blockade our ports, an exceedingly fantastic one, and we ourselves are certainly far from thinking it likely to be realised. But when you become thoroughly acquainted with this empire of 300,000,000 of inhabitants, when you know what are the resources in soil and population of these rich and fertile countries, you cannot but ask what should prevent such a nation from exercising great influence over the affairs of the human race. What it wants is a man of genius, a man truly great, capable of assimilating the power and vitality of this nation, more populous than all Europe, and which counts more than thirty centuries of civilisation. Should an Emperor arise among them possessed of a great intellect, a will of iron, a reformer determined to come at once to a rupture with the ancient traditions, and initiate his people into the progressive civilisation of the West, we believe that the work of regeneration would proceed with rapid strides, and that perhaps those Chinese who now appear such a very ridiculous people might be thought of somewhat more seriously, and might even occasion mortal uneasiness to those who covet so eagerly the spoils of the ancient nations of Asia.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 22.—4th Sunday in Lent.
MONDAY, 23.—Treaty of Vienna signed, 1815.
TUESDAY, 24.—Portobello taken, 1742.
WEDNESDAY, 25.—Lady Day.
THURSDAY, 26.—Duke of Cambridge born, 1819.
FRIDAY, 27.—Peace of Amiens, 1802.
SATURDAY, 28.—Raphael born, 1482.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 28, 1857.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
11 15	11 55	—	0 30	0 55	1 15	1 40
1 15	1 40	2 15	2 40	3 05	3 30	3 55

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Monday, March 23, and during the week, the New Drama, in Four Acts, with new scenery, &c., entitled *A LIFE'S TRIAL*: after which, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and first time at Half-price, *DOUBLE-FACED PEOPLE*; on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, after the Drama, *A WICKED WIFE*.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—On Monday and during the week will be presented Shakespeare's Tragedy of *KING RICHARD III.*: King Richard III., by Mr. C. Keen; Queen, by Mrs. C. Keen. Preceded by Music Hath Charms.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Passion Week, commencing April 6. HENRY RUSSELL, Composer of "The Gamber's Wife," "The Maniac," "The Ship on Fire," and many other popular songs, will give his Entertainment entitled *THE FAIR WEST!* or, *Every-day Life in America*; in which he will relate his Anecdotes descriptive of American Life and Manners, and sing his most celebrated compositions. The Second Part will consist of a Series of Sketches entitled *NEGRO LIFE*. Mr. Russell will accompany himself on one of Collard and Collard's magnificent Bi-chord Pianofortes, made expressly for him by that eminent firm. Tickets and places may be secured of Mr. Massingham, at the Box-office, from Eleven to Four. Doors open at Half-past Seven; commence at Eight.

DELPHI THEATRE ROYAL.—On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, by Desire, "Irish Assurance," with "Barney the Baron," "In and Out of Place," "A Night at Notting-hill," on Friday "The Happy Man" will be revived for the Benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams. Madame Celeste will reappear on Easter Monday.

STREY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Monday, March 23rd, and all the week, Shakespeare's *KING HENRY IV.*, with Equestrian Illustrations. Hosts: Mr. James Holloway; Prince Henry, Mr. W. Cooke, jun.; Falstaff, Mr. Anson. After which Equestrian Exercises in the Circle. To conclude with a "Moroccan Chouli" of an extraordinary nature. Commence at Seven o'clock. Dress Boxes, 4s.; Upper Boxes, 2s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.; Upper Gallery, 3d.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD.—The greatest amount of talent ever witnessed in London.—Mr. Phelps, Mr. Robinson, and Miss Atkinson, of Sadler's Wells; with the SPANISH MINSTRELS, seven in number, and the SPANISH DANCERS, by permission of J. B. Buckstone, Esq., every evening, and no advance in the prices.

CANTERBURY HALL, Westminster-road.—The above Magnificent Hall is Open Every Evening for Musical Entertainments, consisting of Selections from all the popular Operas, Choruses, Duets, &c., supported by Artists of Celebrity.—Commence at 7 o'clock precisely.—Suppers, &c., until Twelve.

MR. and Mrs. HENRI DRAYTON have the honour to announce their new and successful entertainment, *ILLUSTRATED PROVERBS*, at the REGENT GALLERY QUADRANT, Every Evening (Saturday excepted), at Eight o'clock. Saturday Morning Performance at Three o'clock.—Admission, 1s. and 2s.; Stalls, 3s., which may be secured at the Gallery; or at Cadby's Pianoforte and Music Warehouse, 42, New Bond-street.

THE SISTERS SOPHIA and ANNIE, in their Original Entertainment, entitled *SKETCHES FROM NATURE*, will appear at GOMEISAL, March 23rd; BATTLE, 24th; HECKMONDWICKE, 25th; WAKEFIELD, 26th and 27th.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO of ODDITIES, with New Costumes and various novelties, Vocal and Characteristic, EVERY EVENING (Saturday excepted), at Eight. A Morning Performance every Saturday, at Three. Private Boxes and Stalls may be secured, without extra charge, at the Box-office.—Polygraphic Hall, King William-street, Charing-cross. The Hall has been entirely redecorated.

THE BROUSIL FAMILY respectfully announce that they will give a Series of FOUR SOIREES MUSICALES, at their own residence, 22, Nottingham-place, New-road, on THURSDAYS, March 18 and 25; April 2 and 9; to commence at Half-past Eight o'clock. Subscription Tickets, One Guinea; Single Tickets, Half-a-Guinea each, at Robert W. Olivier's, Music-seller and Publisher, 19, Old Bond-street, Piccadilly.

HERR ERNST PAUER has the honour to announce that he will give THREE SOIREES MUSICALES, at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, on WEDNESDAYS, March 25, April 22, and May 13. To commence at half-past eight o'clock. Subscription tickets for the series, one guinea; single tickets, half-a-guinea each; which may be had at the principal Music Warehouses; and of Herr Ernst Pauer, at his new residence, 3, Cranley-place, Onslow-square.

KEY'S PARIS and the PARISIANS.—St. Cloud, Versailles, Baden, &c.—Caricature—Piano—Rough Sketches. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Evenings, at Eight; Tuesday and Saturday Mornings at Three. Seats, 1s.; stalls, 2s. 21, Saville-row, Regent-street, facing New Burlington-street.

MR. J. L. TOOLE, of the LYCEUM THEATRE, respectfully announces his FIRST BENEFIT for TUESDAY, 21st inst. *THE WONDER*, Mr. and Mrs. Dillon, Miss Woolgar, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Toole; "Dominique the Deserter," Mr. Toole; "Good for Nothing," Miss Woolgar, Mr. Toole; "My Friend from Leatherhead," and the Dazzling Feme Fatale "Conrad and Medora."—Tickets at the Box-office; and of Mr. Toole, 14, Cecil-street, Strand.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—The LAST NIGHTS of Miss P. HORTON'S (Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's) present Entertainment.—On MONDAY, 23rd MARCH, and During the Week, the Last Performances of "Our Ward's Governors," and "Enraged Musician." On MONDAY, MARCH 30th, and During the Week, the Last Performances of the Original Entertainment: introducing Mrs. Myrtle, Sir John Quill, Percy Primrose, the Charley Boy, &c. In Passion Week One Performance only—SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 11, at Three. In Easter Week, Every Evening at the SURREY GARDENS. Mr. and Mrs. German Reed will reappear at the Gallery of Illustration with an entirely Novel Entertainment on Monday, 27th April.—Admission, 2s. 1s.; Stalls, 3s. May be secured at the Gallery, from Eleven till Four daily; and at Cramer, Beale, and Co.'s, 201, Regent-street.

ROYAL SURREY GARDENS open during PASSION and EASTER WEEKS.—Mr. THACKERAY will deliver his Lectures on the FOUR GEORGES in Passion Week (April 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th). Miss P. HORTON (Mr. and Mrs. T. German Reed) will give their positively last performances of their POPULAR ILLUSTRATIONS during Easter Week, commencing Monday, April 13th. For further particulars apply at the offices of the Royal Surrey Gardens; and at Jullien and Co.'s, 214, Regent-street.—Mr. and Mrs. T. GERMAN REED will reappear at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street, on Monday, April 27th, in an entirely new Entertainment.—W. ELLIS, Sec.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, BADEN, UP the RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN every evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock. Stalls, 3s. area, 2s.; gallery, 1s. Stalls can be secured at the Box-office, Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly, every day, between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge.—The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.

GENERAL TOM THUMB PERFORMS DAILY at PRINCE OF WALES BAZAAR, 200, Regent-street: from Half-past Twelve to Two, Half-past Three to Five, and Half-past Seven to Nine o'clock; introducing among numerous new Songs, Dances, and Imitations, "Villains" and "Bobbing Around." He has appeared three times before her Majesty. Admission, 1s. and 2s.

BALL, HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—Miss JAMES, of the Royal Opera, has the honour to announce that her Annual FULL-DRESS BALL will take place at the above Rooms on TUESDAY NEXT, MARCH 24th. Adams's Band will attend. The Ball under the direction of Mr. J. Bland. Gentlemen's Tickets, 10s. 6d.; Ladies' ditto, 7s. 6d.: including refreshments. Tickets to be obtained at Jullien's, Regent-street; Sans, St. James's-street; Duff and Hodgson's, Oxford-street; at the above Rooms; and at Miss James's Academy, 54, Great Queen-street, Lincoln-inn.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA. FRIDAY, MARCH 27th, Handel's *ISRAEL*, in 10 parts. With Orchestra of 700 Performers. Tickets, 3s.; reserved, 5s.; and stalls, 10s. 6d. each, at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter-hall.

EXHIBITION.—Now Open, Messrs. DICKINSON'S GALLERY of PORTRAITS of DISTINGUISHED PERSONS. Admission, One Shilling. 114, New Bond-street.

DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE TO BE LET, in a delightful Hunting and Fishing locality, in the county of Herts. The House comprises spacious Drawing and Dining Rooms, Five good Bed-rooms, Kitchen, Servants' Offices, Wine and Coal Cellars, with Two Three-stall Stables, Carriage and Chaise House, productive Garden, Orchard, and Meadows (about five acres), with a light of Fishing in the river Colne, a celebrated river for fish; the whole surrounded with large Parks and seats of the neighbouring Gentry. Rent £50 per annum.—Apply on the Premises, Mill-end, Rickmansworth, Herts, near Watford Station on the London and North-Western Railway.

EXETER HALL.—TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION.—A CHORAL MEETING of this Association will be held in EXETER HALL, on TUESDAY Evening, MARCH 31st, 1857. The Choir will be taken by W. E. HICKSON, Esq., Author of "The Singing Master," and an Essay on "The Use of Singing." The CHORUS, consisting of about 800 Voices, entirely without the assistance of any instrumental accompaniment, will sing pieces selected from the Works of Mendelssohn, Naepli, Becker, Spohr, Webbe, and other eminent Composers. During the interval the Rev. JOHN CURWEN will give a brief Lesson on the Method. To commence at 7.30. Doors open at 6.30. Tickets (for the Body of the Hall, 1s.; or Western Gallery, 1s. 6d.), and Books of Words (2d. each) may be obtained of Ward and Co., 21, Paternoster-row; Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Chancery; Scheumann and Co., 86, Newgate-street; Ewer and Co., 330, Oxford-street; Fenning, 78, Strand; Sprague, 7, Finsbury Pavement; Tolkin, 87, King William-street; Cliv; Mead and Powell, 101, Whitechapel High-street; Starling, 87, Upper-street, Islington; and of any Teacher of the Method.

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS, incorporated by Royal Charters. The Thirty-fourth Annual Exhibition of this Society is NOW OPEN from Nine a.m. until Dusk. Admission, 1s. Suffolk-street, Fall-mall East. ALFRED CLINT, Hon. Secretary.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS, PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street (opposite the Polytechnic Institution).—The above Society's Tenth Annual Exhibition of the Works of Modern Painters is NOW OPEN from Nine till Dusk. Admission, One Shilling. Catalogues Sixpence. BELL SMITH, Secretary.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—Instruction in the Art and Scientific Principles of Photography, by THOMAS FREDERICK HARDWICH, Esq., Lecturer in Photography.—Mr. Hardwich proposes to begin, on MONDAY, APRIL 6th, his LECTURES on the SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES of PHOTOGRAPHY, illustrated by Practical Demonstrations in the Art. For a Prospectus apply to J. W. Cunningham, Esq., Secretary, King's College, London. R. W. JELF, D.D., Franch. al.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, Charing-cross, founded in 1816, for relieving the Poor afflicted with Diseases of the Eye.—This hospital was the first institution in London which opened its doors to relieve poor persons on their own application without letters of recommendation. There are 30 beds for in-patients, the wards are large and airy, but the want of means precludes the admission of half that number. The visits of the Christian and the benevolent are respectfully invited, and their contributions entreated for this useful charity. Subscriptions thankfully received by Messrs. Coutts and Co., bankers, Strand; by Messrs. Drummonds, bankers, Charing-cross; and by the Secretary at the Hospital. The Committee gratefully acknowledge the following contributions:—

William Webb, Esq.	£40 0 0	Mrs. Cornes	£50 0 0
Joseph Sturge, Esq.	25 0 0	Miss Bailey	25 0 0
Chas. P. Stuart, Esq.	10 0 0	Mrs. M. Armitage	21 0 0
Joseph Heyrold, Esq.	5 0 0	Miss S. M. Broadwood	10 0 0
The late Thos. Coster Longman, Esq. (legacy)	5 5 0	Mrs. Martyn	2 2 0
P. H. Crutchley, Esq.	2 2 0	Mrs. P. W. Mure	annual 1 1 0
Capt. J. W. Fox	2 2 0	Mrs. Carter	annual 1 1 0
The Rev. J. W. Hammond	5 0 0	H. A. Joseph, Esq.	annual 1 1 0
G. O. Leicester, Esq.	annual 1 1 0		

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1857.

Up to the moment at which the necessities of our large publication compel us to go to press, the Prime Minister has issued no address to the electors of Tiverton, or avowed in any way the domestic policy of his Government. In a later edition we shall be enabled to report his Lordship's speech at the Mansion-house dinner, when it is expected that he will declare himself either to have, or not to have, a policy in accordance with the views of the great Liberal party, who are at present well inclined to acknowledge him as a chief. With or without such a policy it is probable that he will obtain a majority in the new Parliament; without such a policy it is certain that he will not be able to retain for any long period the confidence of a body of supporters sufficiently numerous and well disciplined to keep him in office. In the mean time, if his Lordship do not declare himself, it will not be from want of challenges, either from friends or foes, and especially from the latter. Lord John Russell, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Disraeli, have severally characterised him in speeches and in addresses as a man without a policy at home, but not without a dangerous policy abroad. Sir James Graham and Mr. Disraeli are particularly spiteful on this subject, and their spite is none the less seasonable and effective for its purpose in being leavened with truth. But the victory will remain with the Minister if it shall so please him. A few sentences from his mouth or from his pen will leave his opponents powerless to do him injury, and make him, both theoretically and virtually, the master of the situation. The Reform spirit may have been in a trance, but it is not dead; and the task reserved for the great statesman of our day is to reawaken it into life and activity, and direct its energies to the social and political welfare of the people. Lord John Russell has principles which fit him for the leadership, but he is uncertain, and wants tact and temper. Lord Palmerston, on the other hand, is not uncertain. He has tact in a high degree, and he never loses temper. He inspires confidence amongst all who are associated with him; but he wants—or, if he do not want, he has never yet expressed and promulgated—those great principles which make people rally around Lord John Russell, even when they do not like him. Lord Palmerston is the man of the present hour; but if he would be the man of the next hour he must speak out. Patriotic, high-minded, and, judged by its remotest results, eminently peaceable as his foreign policy is, the bulk of the people who approve of it—partly from faith, partly from reason, partly from admiration of the truly British "pluck" of which it is so brilliant a specimen—require a spice of home policy, if it were only to season their approval with something which they more thoroughly understand. If his Lordship will undo that little error about Mr. Locke King's motion, and if he will endeavour to realise the hope of the thousands and hundreds of thousands of honest citizens who are now deprived of the suffrage, he will waft himself into an amount of power and influence which any Minister might envy, and which no Minister in England in late years has either obtained or deserved.

THE appointment of the Earl of Elgin as Minister Plenipotentiary to China has been received with universal satisfaction. Lord Derby and Lord Malmesbury approve; Mr. Disraeli is content; Mr. Gladstone—who could speak upon that subject, or upon any other, for seven hours, and still leave it unexhausted for a second day's debate—has nothing to allege against it; and Mr. Cobden himself is as pleased as he can be with anything done by so warlike a personage as the Prime Minister. A man of high rank was needed for a mission of such importance, if it were only out of respect to the Emperor of China. The Central Government at Peking has taken no step to support the obstinacy of the Governor of Canton; but, on the contrary, if the information conveyed by the last mail be correct, has forbidden the Mandarins, at the other four ports at which the British are allowed to trade, to take any part in the quarrel. If such policy prove to be that of the Emperor, it is well that the choice of our Government has fallen on a nobleman so distinguished as Lord Elgin. The Emperor will thereby understand—if the Chinese are capable in their intolerable conceit of

understanding anything European—how desirous this country is of treating him with the utmost deference, and of being represented at his Court by a person who represents not only its high aristocracy of birth, but its still higher aristocracy of talent.

The usual injustice of Englishmen at home towards the Englishmen abroad who are charged with the difficult and generally thankless task of maintaining the national honour against the attacks of civilised and barbarian enemies, has been meted out in no unsparing measure to Sir John Bowring. Those who are still guilty of this injustice rejoice in the appointment of the Earl of Elgin, because they see in it the virtual condemnation of the present Governor of Hong-Kong. But the Government of Lord Palmerston did not intend, and the country in general will not consider, the appointment in this light. The dispute having acquired dimensions not anticipated, it is natural that its management should devolve upon higher agencies than those originally concerned, and Sir John Bowring will be relieved of responsibility, not because he has done wrong or because he might hereafter do wrong, but simply because a local officer is not the proper authority to conduct to its issue a quarrel which threatens to become general.

As for Sir John Bowring, who has been accused by the virulent factions of his countrymen of all the most atrocious crimes which it is possible for a man to commit—of deliberate falsehood, and of reckless destruction of human life—we trust that he has sufficient philosophy to despise calumny, and to trust for his vindication to the verdict of Time, which rights all wrongs, and always does justice to those who are wrongfully accused. The heats of party strife will cool, or will break out in some new direction;—and then, if not sooner, the slanders heaped upon him for the fault—if fault it be—of having been jealously watchful of the honour of his country amid insolent and ignorant semi-barbarians, who mistake magnanimity for weakness, will be no more remembered against him. When Wellington was patiently maturing victory in the Peninsula, he was slandered in England, and threatened with public trial. When the gallant Raglan was dying at his post in the Crimea, and enacting the hero's part in the heroism of silent suffering as well as in the heroism of personal courage, he was slandered by the unthinking as well as by the evil-minded, both in the camp and at home. Without comparing Sir John Bowring with either of these eminent servants of their country, we may trust—as we do—that he has their patient philosophy; and that a consciousness of rectitude will enable him to endure, if he do not despise, the calumnies which have been directed against him. At present he may have the consolation of reflecting that the opponents of his acts have invariably been men who knew nothing whatever of China; and that his supporters are the whole British population in Hong-Kong and the five free ports of China, and all the great merchants of London and Liverpool who trade with China, and whose pecuniary interests are seriously injured by the war. These facts alone may serve as a justification of the course which he, a friend of China and a lover of peace, was reluctantly compelled to take in a very difficult and exceptional position. Such a justification, from the persons most competent to give it, far outweighs any condemnation which ignorant Lords and equally ignorant Commoners—out of office, and anxious, on this pretext or any other, to get into office—may pronounce on a course of proceeding which only requires to be successful to be praised by thousands who are now unsparing in their denunciation.

THE COURT.

The Queen continues to enjoy her accustomed good health. During the week just closed her Majesty has taken almost daily carriage airings—devoting her evenings to dinner parties and visits to the theatre.

On Monday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace, at which M. Gonzalez Bravo had an audience, and delivered to her Majesty his credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Queen of Spain. The Earl of Elgin, K.T., was also presented to the Queen by the Earl of Clarendon, and kissed hands on being appointed her Majesty's Plenipotentiary to China. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Princess Royal, honoured the Princess's Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday—the birthday of her Royal Highness the Princess Louise—her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, accompanied by the Princess Amalie of Hohenlohe-Schillingfurst, paid a visit of congratulation to the Queen. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince, with the Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, and the Princess Helena, honoured the Adelphi Theatre with their presence.

Yesterday (Friday) her Majesty presided at a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace, and performed her last official act in connection with the expiring Parliament, by ordering its prorogation preparatory to the dissolution on Monday next.

His Excellency Ferouk Khan, Envoy Extraordinary from Persia, arrived in town on Thursday from Paris, with the intention of remaining some weeks in London. Captain Lynch, of the E.I.C.'s service, will attend on his Excellency during his *sejour* in England.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston gave a grand banquet on Wednesday evening to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge at Cambridge House. A distinguished circle were invited to meet the Royal Duke; and after dinner her Ladyship had a crowded assemblage of the aristocracy and fashionable world at Cambridge House.

The Countess Chreptowitch is about to renew the hospitalities of the Russian Legation. The saloons of Chesham-house are to be reopened for the first time on the 25th instant, with a grand dinner and evening party, which will be repeated on the 1st of April.

His Excellency Count d'Appony, the Austrian Minister, has just returned to Chandos House, from Germany, where his Excellency has been to attend the obsequies of his brother.

TROOP-SHIPS FOR CHINA.—CLIFFORD'S BOAT-LOWERING GEAR.

—In reply to an inquiry from Admiral Walcott, in the House of Commons, on Tuesday last, as to whether the troop-ships, about to proceed on the expedition, were to be provided with this invention in the same way as emigrant-ships are, the First Lord replied, "that in every trial that had been made of it its use had been attended with complete success, and that he hoped it would soon be universally adopted." Having long since urged the absolute necessity for some such precaution being taken in our crowded men-of-war, we are gratified to find, as we are sure the relatives of all travelling by them will be, that the Admiralty has taken this considerate step for their safety in the event of accident at sea.

THE TRICOLOR FLAG OF ITALY.—In the sitting of the 10th inst. of the Chamber of Deputies of Turin M. Cassaretto complained that the tricolored flags of certain vessels had been seized at Genoa, because they had not the azure bend of the house of Savoy. He contended that the tricolor was the only banner of Italy, and that a law ought to be passed, fixing the national colours once for all. General de la Marmora, Minister of War, replied that the subject needed no new law, and quoted the decree of April 15th, 1848, issued by Charles Albert at Volta, and a circular of the Minister of Marine in 1851, prescribing that the azure bend should be added to the three colours. The seizure of certain flags was owing to the obstinacy of some sea captains in refusing to conform to the law. Count de Cavour deprecated any discussion on the national colours as highly inopportune at the present moment; the question had been settled by the decree of Charles Albert, and the intention of that Monarch had clearly been to give the nation one single flag and not two. The blue was a colour to which many Piedmontese were sincerely attached. "Say all!" here exclaimed M. Valerio, a member of the left. "The great hopes awakened by the tricolor must be associated with the glorious and ancient traditions of the monarchy of Savoy!" These words were received with loud cheers; and, after some further observations, the Chamber voted the order of the day.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL IN THE CITY.

On Thursday afternoon, according to public announcement, Lord John Russell met his friends and supporters in the large room of the London Tavern, which was densely crowded. On the platform were Mr. Moffatt, M.P., Mr. S. Warren, M.P., Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., John M'Leod, Esq., Captain R. M'Leod, the High Bailiff of Southwark, — Scurluck, Esq., Mr. Hankey, Sergeant Parry, Mr. Wickham, Mr. F. Bennoch, Deputy Harrison, Mr. Whitehurst, Mr. Commissioner Prendergast, Dr. Spark, Alderman Humphery, Alderman Salomons, Mr. Austin, Mr. Beardmore, Mr. J. Baxter Langley, Mr. Guedalla, Mr. Roberts, &c. The entrance of Lord John Russell into the hall was received with the most enthusiastic and long-continued cheering. Mr. Moffatt, M.P., moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded, a motion that Mr. Thomson Hankey take the chair.

Mr. Hankey having taken the chair amidst immense cheering. The Chairman, after a few prefatory remarks, introduced Lord John Russell to the meeting. They had assembled, he said, to receive and to welcome one of the oldest reformers in Parliament, a gentleman and a statesman whose name alone would be a passport everywhere for his efforts in the cause of civil and religious liberty (loud cheers). They were met to consider, not whether Lord John Russell was to be turned out of the City, but how they could best secure their own interests in placing him at the head of the poll (Hear, hear). He (the Chairman) had been a constant supporter of Lord Palmerston's Government in Parliament, but he did not think he was chargeable with any inconsistency in his coming forward to support Lord John Russell, upon whom the Liberal party looked as the leader of that progress of reform which he had always shown by his conduct he had at heart (loud cheers).

Lord John Russell, who was received with enthusiastic applause, commenced by saying that he appealed to the electors of the city of London against the Registration Association, which had, as he thought, unfairly excluded him from the list of candidates. Having defended himself at considerable length from the charge of having entered into any coalition with those who voted along with him on the China question, he said there were three questions before the country. The first was, ought Lord Palmerston's Government to be supported? To that question he emphatically said yes. The next was, ought Lord Palmerston to be supported irrespective of any opinions he may profess? To that question he said emphatically no. And, last of all, ought the great Reform party of the city of London and of Great Britain to abandon their principles? To that he also said no. Nothing would be more dangerous to that party than to give up any of those principles for which they had contended so long and earnestly. In conclusion the noble Lord said:—

"I ask the electors of the United Kingdom to weigh thoroughly on this occasion the merits of the men who come before them for election purposes for the next six years to come; to consider, not whether this man calls out for the present head of the Government and Reform, and another for the present head of the Government and the Conservative cause, but to consider what men you can find who, by their past conduct and character, are likely to promote the cause of progress (loud cheers). I say the cause of progress, for it is my conviction that not only is progress healthy, but that it is likewise conservative—as much more conservative than stagnation as the flow of the healthy current is more advantageous than the stagnation of the unwholesome marsh (Hear, hear). I believe, therefore, you ought to look for men who will promote progress, in such a way as not to disturb the intricate and complicated relations of men to each other, and to substitute disorder and confusion for harmony and peace (Hear, hear). That progress should embrace an amelioration of the condition of the people carefully considered, an increase of the popular franchise, and an increase of popular power, but at the same time accompanied with the increase and diffusion of education. Gentlemen, I look to the diffusion of education as the security for our institutions, as the best and ablest men of the United States look to the diffusion of education as the best security for the peace and order of the community. Gentlemen, if these opinions, if these declarations, are approved by you, I hope to have your support at the forthcoming election. But, gentlemen, dearly as I prize your approbation, dearly as I value the honour of being returned for this city in Parliament, much as I should rejoice in being able to take my seat as representing you, and expressing your sentiments in Parliament, and little as I am disposed to bow to the dictate of a clique, for no such prize, for no such honour, should I be inclined to forfeit the approbation of my own conscience (loud cheers). I am sure that you, as Englishmen, will respect that avowal. If you cannot agree with me—if you think my opinions and declarations render me unfit to receive your votes—without them at the poll; but, if you think me fit to represent you, I hope no insidious manoeuvre will deprive me of the honour of becoming member for the city of London." (The noble Lord sat down amidst loud cheers.)

On the motion of Mr. Francis Bennoch, seconded by Mr. George Moore, the following resolution was adopted, only four hands being held up against it:—

"That this meeting have heard with satisfaction the manly determination of Lord John Russell to the appeal to the free suffrages of the independent electors of the city of London.

"That they hold this course to be such as becomes a candidate for the representation of this important constituency; and, looking at Lord John Russell's eminent past services in the cause of civil and religious liberty, and in the full confidence that he will continue to be the advocate and promoter of Liberal measures, they pledge themselves to give him their utmost support."

Three cheers were then given for "Reform, retrenchment, and peace," and Lord John Russell left the room amidst the plaudits of his friends.

CITY OF LONDON.—The adjourned meeting of the Liberal Registration Association was held on Tuesday at the London Tavern.—Mr. J. Travers in the chair. A good deal of opposition was manifested to the resolution moved at the previous meeting in favour of Baron Rothschild, Sir James Duke, Mr. Raikes Currie, and Mr. Crawford. Mr. Samuel Morley said he should vote in favour of Lord John Russell, and against Sir James Duke. Mr. F. Bennoch denounced the resolution which was passed at the previous meeting, without the full knowledge of the meeting, and while the press was excluded, affirming that no candidates except commercial men should be invited to become candidates for the City. It was narrowing the area from which they chose their representatives, for that area ought to be as wide as England itself. He moved that the resolution alluded to should be rescinded. Mr. Deputy Dakin, wishing to bring matters to a point of decision, moved an amendment, to the effect that, having heard the sentiments of Sir James Duke, Mr. Raikes Currie, Mr. Crawford, and Baron Rothschild, the meeting considered they were eminently calculated to represent the city of London in Parliament, and tendered their support. The amendment was put, and carried.

MARYLEBONE.—The Political and Parochial Association of the borough of Marylebone, which numbers some three or four hundred electors, held its adjourned meeting on Tuesday evening at the Colosseum Tavern, Portland-road, for the purpose of considering the present state of the borough in Parliament. Mr. Wm. Field (late churchwarden of Marylebone) occupied the chair, and the room in which the meeting was held was densely crowded. The resolution which had been proposed by Mr. Brinsmead, and seconded by Mr. Moss, at the previous meeting, was to the effect:—"That this meeting considers Lord Ebrington unfit to represent the borough of Marylebone in Parliament, he being opposed to local self-government, and pledge itself to use all its influence to prevent his Lordship being again returned, and further will support those candidates only who will pledge themselves to lessen if possible the powers of the Poor-law Board." Mr. Dyke, who moved the adjournment of the previous meeting, moved a modification of the original resolution in the shape of an amendment:—"That this meeting expresses its deep regret at the present unsatisfactory state of the representation of the borough of Marylebone, and that, considering the great difference which exists in the sentiments of Lord Ebrington and the electors on local matters, it cannot advise the support of his Lordship at the forthcoming election." Mr. Dyke said that Lord Ebrington obtained his seat for that borough by the help of the Tories, and no doubt the Tories would come to his rescue again; but, be that as it might, he thought that association would not be doing its duty unless it gave expression to its opinion. A long discussion followed, in the course of which Mr. Jacob Bell expressed his regret that either the resolution or the amendment had been moved. Having had upwards of 4000 supporters at the last election, he had a right to believe that would be sufficient to justify him in coming forward to contest the borough again; but when he knew that his late noble opponent was on a bed of sickness, and stricken down, he thought it would be a most ungenerous part for him to take advantage of such circumstance, and come forward at that time. He had been beaten by Lord Ebrington at the last election by 2900 odd, and was it likely that people had changed their opinions of his Lordship so as to turn that majority into a minority? (Loud cries of "Yes, yes!" and "No, no!") He thought not (Oh, oh). The resolution was ultimately carried with only one dissentient.

AYLESBURY.—A large meeting of the electors of Aylesbury was held on Wednesday last, to listen to explanations from the two members for the borough, Sir Richard Bethell and Mr. Layard, especially on the subject of the vote on Mr. Cobden's motion. Mr. Layard, after defending himself from the charge that he had been actuated by factious motives, said he believed that the result of the present cry would be to place Lord Palmerston at the head, not of a body of Liberals, but of a body of Tories. He had made every sacrifice a public man could make rather than betray Liberal principles, and he was resolved so to do if again returned.—Sir Richard Bethell said he could wish to have seen a more speedy progress in

administrative and social reforms; but the fault was not in Lord Palmerston, but in hesitating men at his side or at his back, who sometimes voted for, and sometimes in opposition to, the Government. He called on the electors to return two members pledged to support a Government from whom they might expect measures tending in every way to the welfare of the people (Cheers). A unanimous vote of confidence in both gentlemen was carried by acclamation.

BLACKBURN.—In conjunction with Mr. James Pilkington, Mr. Jonathan Peel, J.P., of Knowlmore, has been requested by the unanimous vote of a numerous and enthusiastic meeting to allow himself to be nominated for this borough. The voluntary retirement of Major Feilden reflects great honour upon the gallant gentleman; and the willingness of Mr. Raynsford Jackson and Major Feilden to co-operate with the committee to secure Mr. Peel's return deserves the highest praise.

BOSTON.—Mr. Ingram's canvass proceeds in a most satisfactory manner, and there is no doubt of his return.

BRADFORD.—Mr. Titus Salt having retired from the contest, the only candidates are General Thompson and Mr. Wickham. The following is General Thompson's address: "Gentlemen, I come to refresh the acquaintance we have long had. I began in the time of struggle for a great principle, to the value of which every portion of your town bears witness. To detain you with sentiments which have long been common to us would be waste of time. To a few points it may be well to advert. Of war, as of surgery, the less we want the better; but what we have should be good. To reduce wars and fightings to a minimum is the great practical problem for wise men in the present day. Concerning intervention, the same. We want intervention for good, and not intervention for evil. Is not your police maintained on the same principle? Nations will at some time unite for a police which shall do on a grand scale what the other does. Though not so fast as we could wish, reform and improvement are making head in all directions. We have had time to take lessons in methods of assisting."

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—No opposition has yet been offered to the present members. Mr. Disraeli has issued the following address to his constituents:—"Gentlemen, the House of Commons having, by a solemn vote, in which the leading men of all parties concurred, censured the cruel and double-dealing policy pursued by the agents of the Government towards the Chinese, Parliament has been dissolved. Since the announcement of the dissolution the Minister has declared that his agents in China will be superseded, thus acknowledging the justness of the vote of the House of Commons. It is clear, therefore, that the plea for dissolution is a pretext. What, then, is the real object? To waste a year. Lord Palmerston is an eminent man, who has deserved well of his country; but as Prime Minister he occupies a false position. He is the Tory chief of a Radical Cabinet. With no domestic policy, he is obliged to divert the attention of the people from the consideration of their own affairs, to the distraction of foreign politics. His external system is turbulent and aggressive, that his rule at home may be tranquil and unassailed. Hence arise excessive expenditure, heavy taxation, and the stoppage of all social improvement. His scheme of conduct is so devoid of all political principle that when forced to appeal to the people his only claim to their confidence is his name. Such arts and resources may suit the despotic ruler of a Continental state exhausted by revolutions, but they do not become a British Minister governing a country proud, free, and progressive, animated by glorious traditions, and aspiring to future excellence. The honour and the best interests of the country require that men should be returned to the new Parliament with definite principles. If you will confer on me, for the fourth time, the high distinction of being your member, I will, as heretofore, uphold our constitution in Church and State, and support those popular and aristocratic institutions which, in this country, have made power a privilege, but have extended the possession of that privilege to all who exert themselves to deserve it—institutions which have educated a nation to aspire and excel. The general policy which I would enforce at this juncture may be contained in these words—Honourable peace, reduced taxation, and social improvement. There is an attempt at the present day to play off the parties which exist, and have always to a certain degree existed, in the Church against each other for political objects. This is a dangerous course for Churchmen to sanction. The Church, which, irrespective of its higher functions, is one of the great guarantees of English happiness, has foes enough without seeking for them in her own bosom; and it would appear to me that, instead of quarrelling among themselves, Churchmen should evince mutual forbearance, unite on the common ground of ecclesiastical polity, and oppose all efforts to impair the integrity of that Reformed Church of England which is the best security for the religious liberty of all classes and creeds of her Majesty's subjects. I have the honour to remain, your obliged and faithful servant, B. DISRAELI. Hughenden Manor, March 17."

CARLISLE.—Sir James Graham addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents at Carlisle on Monday evening. A resolution was proposed to the effect that the meeting, having heard the explanation of Sir James Graham, have full confidence in him, and request him to again become a candidate for the representation of Carlisle. There were few dissentients to the resolution, which was carried.

DUMFRIES.—Mr. James Hannay, of London, a native of Dumfries, author of "Singleton Fontenay" and other literary productions, has issued an address, in which he lays great stress upon the right solution of social questions, and seems from it to be a politician of the Stanley class. He condemns the Chinese policy of Lord Palmerston; and, if returned for the Dumfries burghs, the Derbyites would gain a vote.

HUDDESFIELD.—Mr. Cobden, in his speech at Salford, stated that he had for some time hoped to have a chance of sitting for Huddersfield. In his farewell address to the electors of the West Riding he says:—"From the moment when the Free-trade policy was no longer opposed by any political party in the country I felt that every motive which led to my having become the representative of your most important electoral district had wholly ceased. For to one who, like myself, takes an active interest in the leading public questions of the day it offers no advantage to be elected for the largest of our constituencies. On the contrary, it involves the additional labour of much local and private business, and a great increase of correspondence—that terrible tax on the time of public men. Nor does it confer any compensating rank or privilege in the struggle of Parliamentary life. The House of Commons is a pure republic, where each member's position is decided by his own intrinsic qualities, and his arguments derive no force from the weight of the body whom he represents. Lord John Russell would be equally our first debater, whether he sat for London or Tavistock. It is true that a very different rule applies to the votes of the members for large constituencies, for they serve to indicate the policy which, sooner or later, the Government must pursue. But as, with the exception of Free-trade, my hon. colleague and myself are generally opposed on the great questions of the day, I am deprived of the satisfaction of feeling that my vote has any weight in the decisions of the Legislature."

KIDDERMINSTER.—Mr. Lowe has completed his canvass and issued another address to the electors, stating that he has no doubt of his success, and adding:—"I rejoice in the success, not only on my own account, but because it affords a fair omen of the course which the country is about to take in the coming general election, and of the triumph which awaits the cause of truth and justice now referred to the decision of the people."

LANCASHIRE (NORTH).—Lord Cavendish, the eldest son of the Earl of Burlington, offers himself as a candidate.

LEEDS.—The meeting of Liberal electors has been followed by the withdrawal both of Mr. Carbutt and Mr. Forster from the field. On Saturday it was ascertained that the friends of Mr. Carbutt would not give their support to Mr. Forster; and accordingly the latter gentleman, with an honourable determination not to divide the Liberal party, announced his retirement. On Monday the friends of Mr. Carbutt, with the same view of reuniting the party, withdrew the name of that gentleman; and at a numerous meeting of Liberals it was resolved to form a deputation, representing all sections of the party, to select another candidate, as the colleague of the Right Hon. M. T. Baines.

LINCOLNSHIRE (SOUTH DIVISION).—Mr. Hussey Packe has started on the Liberal interest, and has been most favourably received at Boston, Spalding, and Swineshead. The probable members are Sir John Trollope and Mr. Packe.

MANCHESTER.—The candidates are Sir John Potter and Mr. Robert Lowe, in opposition to Mr. John Bright and Mr. Milner Gibson. Mr. Bright has forwarded an address from Rome, in which he says:—"I entirely approve of the resolution moved by Mr. Cobden, and seconded by Mr. Gibson, on the subject of the melancholy events at Canton. I am bound, too, to condemn the policy of the Government in making war with Persia without consulting Parliament, and without even informing the representatives of the people of the course they were about to take, or of the objects for which they were entering into war. If we permit a Ministry to declare war without the knowledge and consent of Parliament, we at once reduce ourselves in our foreign policy to the condition of those nations of the continent of Europe which have no Parliaments, and which do not pretend to possess a free constitution. I feel confident that every elector of Manchester, of every party, will unite to make a stand against a course so unconstitutional and so degrading to the nation. I cannot approve of the proposition of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to raise the duties on tea and sugar. I should much prefer to deal with the extravagance of the estimates than to impose taxes, especially on articles of almost universal consumption, which interfere with commerce, and lessen the demand for labour. I need hardly say that I have no sympathy with the Prime Minister in his hostility to Parliamentary reform, and in his refusal to extend the franchise to £10 householders and occupiers in the counties."

MIDDLESEX.—Lord Robert Grosvenor is in the field, but Mr. Osborne has retired. Lord Robert Grosvenor, in announcing his intention of again offering himself to the electors, has taken the occasion, in consequence of the dissatisfaction given by his Lordship voting in favour of Mr. Cobden's motion, to endeavour to justify that vote.

SALFORD.—At a meeting of the Liberal electors of Salford, held on Tuesday evening, at the Mechanics' Institution, Mr. Cobden announced that he had decided on public grounds to accept an invitation to become a candidate for the representation of Huddersfield, and that he had already

forwarded his address to the electors of that borough. After stating his own determination, Mr. Cobden recommended the Liberal electors to unite in supporting Sir Elkanah Armitage, who had acceded to the wishes of the electors.

SOUTHWARK.—Mr. Apsley Pellatt has resigned. The candidates at present in the field are Sir Charles Napier, Mr. Locke, and Mr. Henry Mayhew. Mr. Locke is a thorough reformer, and has every chance of success. The borough could not have a better or more independent representative.

THE WEST RIDING.—Viscount Goderich has issued his address. He refers to his votes during the four years he has represented Huddersfield as the best explanation of his political opinions. He has long been connected with the Liberal party, and will support any Government that is ready to proceed in the path of progressive improvement; he will continue to advocate the improvement of our electoral system; the abolition of Church-rates; he will aid law reforms; and such changes in the military, naval, and civil services as will advance merit, exclude incapacity, and raise every public department to the highest efficiency. He had generally supported Lord Palmerston's Government, and should continue to do so as far as was consistent with Liberal principles. He thinks Lord Palmerston deserves the thanks of the country during the late war with Russia; for the manner in which he directed our diplomatic affairs during that difficult period; and especially for his course at the time of the Vienna Conference, and as to the dispute about the Isle of Serpents, and the Bessarabian frontier; and (adds his Lordship) "I am of opinion that the present Government is more entitled to our confidence than any other that would be likely to be substituted for it." It appears from the proceedings of a meeting of the West Riding Conservatives, held at Wakefield on Saturday, that that party will not offer any other candidate than Mr. Denison in case the Liberals do not offer any second candidate. It is, therefore, highly probable that Mr. Denison and Lord Goderich will be returned without a contest.

THE ELECTIONS AND THE MEETING OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The time for proceeding to elections for counties and boroughs in England and Wales (the Act does not extend to Scotland or Ireland) is fixed by the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 68 (15th August, 1853).

In counties, by the 2nd sec. of this Act, the elections are to take place not later than the 12th nor sooner than the 6th day after the Sheriff's proclamation; and this proclamation is to be made by the Sheriff immediately, i.e., at latest within two days "after the receipt of the writ."

In boroughs, by the 3rd sec., the returning officer must "proceed to the election within six days after the receipt of the writ," and must "give three clear days' notice, at least, of the day of election, exclusive of the day of proclamation and the day of election."

By the 15 and 16 Vic., c. 23 (17th June, 1852), it is enacted that Parliament, after a dissolution, must meet within thirty-five days after the date of the proclamation.

By the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 15 (March 18th, 1853), the polling for counties in England and Wales is limited to one day (instead of two); the poll to be kept open from 8 a.m. till 5 p.m.

The polling at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge is fixed by the 4th sec. of the 16 and 17 Vic., c. 68; to continue for five days only.

Thus it appears that the new Parliament will assemble within five weeks of the issuing of the writs; within a fortnight from the same period all the county elections in England and Wales must have terminated, and within a week all the borough elections. These limits do not apply to Scotland or Ireland; but as Parliament assembles within thirty-five days from the date of the proclamation, all Scotch and Irish elections must have terminated before the expiration of that time.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 272.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

PERSIA.—The Earl of EGLINTON, in reference to the provisions of the treaty with Persia, inquired whether the right of protection which it was proposed to retain in the case of employes of the Embassy or Consulates, being natives of that country, was also to extend to their wives and families? The question was one of great importance, as one of the causes of the Persian war was the incarceration of the wife of one of the employes.—The Earl of CLARENDON said, although there was no special provision in the treaty for that purpose, he had no doubt the protection would include the wives and families of the employes.

REMOVED DISTURBANCES IN JAPAN.—The Earl of EGLINTON said he had seen a paragraph, taken from the Dutch journals, stating that a conflict had taken place between two British ships and some Japanese vessels. He asked whether the Government had received any information on the subject?—The Earl of CLARENDON replied in the negative.

OUR INTERFERENCE IN NAPLES.—The Earl of HARDWICKE said that the House had received no information as to the reasons which had induced the British Government, in conjunction with that of France, suddenly to abandon their intention of sending a combined squadron to the Bay of Naples. Perhaps the noble Earl opposite would now favour the House with such information.—The Earl of CLARENDON said that soon after it was decided to send a squadron to the Bay of Naples information reached the Western Powers that an insurrection would be likely to follow upon the appearance of the squadron; and, as they desired rather to ally than to increase the existing discontent, they thought it prudent to abandon their original design.—Earl GREY expressed a hope that the subject would be fully discussed by the new Parliament.

The following bills were read a third time and passed, viz.:—Customs Duties, Racehorse Act Amendment, Pauper Maintenance, and the Cinque Ports Act Amendment Bills.

The following bills were read a second time, viz.:—The Mutiny, Marine Mutiny, Mr. Speaker's Retirement, Exchequer Bills (£21,049,700), and the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bills.

THE LATE MR. TURNER'S BEQUEST.—Lord ST. LEONARDS called attention to the bequest by the late Mr. Turner, R.A., of his pictures and drawings to the nation, stating that, owing to the manner in which the instrument of bequest was drawn up, there was great legal difficulty in ascertaining what Mr. Turner really wished to be done. He also complained that the pictures, which were really worth £150,000, were so badly hung as completely to hide their beauty. He urged that an inquiry should be made with a view to the better arrangement of those pictures, and to the giving effect to the expressed wishes of the donor.—The Marquis of LANS-DOWNE defended the arrangements made by the trustees in respect to the pictures of the late Mr. Turner. They could not with propriety have acted otherwise than as they had done. Every exertion would be made to carry out the will of the testator.

A HOSTILE COLLISION AT JAPAN.—A Dutch journal, the *Nord Brabander*, in a letter from Batavia of the 9th January, states that a conflict has taken place between the English and the Japanese. Two English vessels of war are said to have forced the entrance of the port of Nagasaki, where they remained at anchor. Nothing is known of the causes which led to this conflict. One of them, a steamer, broke the chain across the entrance. Although the town is well fortified on the side of the sea, the Japanese authorities did not dare to resort to force to repel the two English vessels.

HUMOUR AND CHARITY.—Last Saturday night, in Queen-street Hall, Edinburgh, Mr. Thackeray delivered his lecture on "Humour and Charity" to a large audience. The proceeds of the lecture, it will be remembered, were for the benefit of the widow of the late Mr. Angus B. Reach.

VICTORIA, HONG-KONG.

THE interest attached to the town of Victoria, the capital of Hong-Kong, and the seat of the Colonial Government, has induced us to engrave the accompanying View of a principal street, from an original Sketch. The precise locality is "Queen's-road West." Here the picturesqueness of the large Chinese building in the foreground, with its open bazaars, contrasts strangely with the plainness of the colonial structures beyond it. The labouring classes and small traders are chiefly Chinese, who are ever on the alert for gain. The bazaars invite the passing stranger in every street, and the itinerant artisans go busily tramping in their daily rounds. There are many striking figures among them, as our Artist has shown. The distance of Hong-Kong from Canton is 102 English miles; the passage is made in boats in ordinary times, and is by no means an agreeable one. The distance of Hong-Kong from Whampoa is ninety miles; so that the latter is twelve miles from Canton, and is the anchorage for all large vessels whose business is with that port.

The latest intelligence received from Hong-Kong will be found in another page.

A View of Hong-Kong from the Harbour, with a Portrait and Memoir of Sir John Bowring, appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for February 18, 1854; another View in this Journal for December 27, 1856 (the large building in the foreground is the Government House); and in our Journal of last week appeared another Coast View of the Island. In each of the above Numbers will be found descriptive details of Victoria, which, as the seat of Administration, is of paramount interest.



VICTORIA HONG-KONG: QUEEN'S-ROAD WEST.—(SEE PAGE 260.)

T H E W A R I N C H I N A .



CHINESE MODERN FIRST-CLASS JUNK OF WAR.—(SEE PAGE 259.)



CHINESE WAR JUNKS OF THE OLD STYLE. (SEE PAGE 259.)

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE talk of the Art world relates entirely to the vacancy in the rank of the Royal Academy of Arts. Richard Cook, R.A., is dead. And who, it is asked, was Richard Cook? Nor is the answer very readily made. Mr. Richard Cook—no, we beg the Academy's pardon, Richard Cook, Esquire—was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy in the year 1817, and a Royal Academician in the year 1822. He was a casual exhibitor between 1808 and 1822—sending landscapes not destitute of poetic beauty; scenes not without talent from the "Lady of the Lake;" and a more ambitious effort, entitled "Ceres, disconsolate for the loss of Proserpine, rejects the solicitations of Iris, sent to her by Jupiter." The Ceres was shown in 1817; and after he became a Royal Academician he never again courted public approbation by a single effort of his pencil. For the five-and-thirty years that he was one of forty Royal Academicians he was never on any one occasion a contributor to the annual exhibitions of his brother Academicians. Why he was chosen a member of the Academy we could never learn—except that he was rich, and enjoyed a reputation for giving good dinners—real Royal Academy qualifications in the year 1822, when the courtly Lawrence was Consul at Somerset House. His position in the Academy was often a matter of personal remark. It was said that he was keeping a working artist out from a post of honour and profit; and it was urged in reply—and with some justice—that, whatever his merits might be, as he did not claim his right to any space on the walls of the Academy, he was doing no injustice to his brother artists. When, or by whom, the vacancy will be filled up we have not heard. By the original law of the Academy a vacancy caused on the 1st of December could not be filled up till the following November; but this dilatory regulation has, we believe, been recently set aside. Many are named for the vacant membership. Rumour speaks favourably of Mr. Sydney Cooper, Mr. Thornburn, Mr. E. W. Cooke, Mr. Egg, and Mr. Frank Stone.

Lord Granville takes the chair at the next annual dinner of the Royal Literary Fund; and he is to be supported by all the Mecenas of literature—publishers, booksellers, bookbinders, printers, stationers, and stitchers. A more estimable nobleman could not have been chosen for the chair, when once it was settled that a nobleman in the chair was absolutely essential to the success of the Fund. We are told by the supporters of the Fund as at present instituted—and told, too, with a good deal of unnecessary trumpeting—that Lord Granville is a *patron* of authors. How detestable is that appellation!—

Toil, envy, want, the patron, and the gaol.

And in what way, let us ask, is Lord Granville a patron of English authors and English literature? His Lordship, or we much mistake him, will not be particularly pleased with the character which the committee of the Fund assign to his Lordship. We make little doubt that had Lord Granville lived in the reign of Queen Anne, and not in that of Queen Victoria, he would have been as much a patron of authors as was "Granville the Polite" of "Anna's reign." But there are no patrons now—patrons are not needed—no one person can be a patron. Copyright money has more than supplied the place of dedication fees. Why, then, call Lord Granville "a patron"? What author or authors does his Lordship patronise? Mr. Hallam or Mr. Macaulay, Mr. Dickens or Mr. Thackeray, Mr. Carlyle or Mr. Layard? We cannot call to mind a single dedication addressed to this amiable and able nobleman, and we are inclined to believe that his Lordship will not be too well pleased with this foolish use of his name.

We hear a good deal that is both pleasant and unpleasant connected with the late annual meeting of the Royal Literary Fund, where Lord Stanhope was in the chair, and the conversation took an archaeological turn in compliment to his Lordship as President of the Society of Antiquaries. There was some malignity in selecting Lord Stanhope, in his capacity as President of the Antiquaries, for the post of Chairman on that day. The committee, of course, asked his Lordship in ignorance, and thought only of Lord Stanhope as an historian, and not as an antiquary, skilled as he is in both capacities. And this reminds us that a bookseller (Mr. Westerton)—the Row would call him a librarian—is standing to become M.P. for Westminster; and that a well-known wag (we must conceal his name) suggested that Mr. Mudie would be the true "patron" of authors to take the chair at the next annual dinner of the Royal Literary Fund. Mudie's subscription seals the fate of many a book as a pecuniary success—ask Longman and Co., Whittaker and Co., and Simpkin and Co.

Authors are observing with marked satisfaction that Mr. Phelps takes the chair at the annual dinner, on the 12th of April next, of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. Mr. Phelps will be well supported on that occasion.

See in what way, and how extensively, a love for art is increasing among us. Lord Howe is building a gallery at Gopsall to contain his choicer treasures. His Lordship inherited the once far-famed collection of Charles Jemms, Esq., of Gopsall and Great Ormond-street—that sturdy Jacobite, who called in the Crace of the day to decorate a tartan-covered bed in which the young Pretender was to sleep when—after passing Derby, which he did not pass—he was to find a night's rest in the hospitable retreat of Gopsall. There are fine pictures at Gopsall. We can see no account of the collection in Mrs. Jameson or Dr. Waagen. The tartan bed is still to be seen.

The accidental allusion to a Crace of a century ago will additionally justify the publication of the following letter:—

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

March 16, 1857.

Sir,—I shall be obliged if you will allow me to state, in reference to a paragraph in your "Table Talk on Art" last week, that my own works for the Duchess of Sutherland have been limited, while my talented confrère, Mr. G. Morant, has been very extensively employed by her Grace.—I am, Sir, yours obediently, JOHN G. CRACE.

Morant or Crace, Crace or Morant, it would be very difficult not to achieve excellence with either. Each is a master in his art.

We chronicle with regret the following paragraph:—

In consequence of some mischievous persons having wantonly defaced the statue of Queen Anne in the western area of St. Paul's Cathedral, the Dean closed the gates on Monday through which persons have for some time past been permitted to pass to and from the north and south sides of the Cathedral yard. It seems the statue has been very much injured; the right arm is completely knocked off, and other portions of the figure much defaced. The Rev. Dr. Milman has offered a reward for the apprehension of the author of the mischief.

The whip and the cart's-tail should be revived for such idle and injurious wickedness as this.

Another author, and an able man, is in the field for the new Parliament. James Hannay, known more than favourably in London for his many accomplishments, is a candidate to represent "the gude town of Dumfries." He is full of energy, and of the best kind, and, what will endure him to Dumfries, he is a Gallovidian, and a Scot of the Scottish lion in his independent state.

At the beginning of April the French company, Matthis, Magnan, Farrot and Co., will enter into competition with the Austrian Danubian Company, on the Lower Danube. The French are likely to prove very formidable rivals to the Austrians, for their prices are about 20 per cent lower than those now paid by the public.

MUSIC.

THE Lessee of HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE has put forth his prospectus, which gives good promise of a brilliant season. The following are his principal arrangements. The theatre is to open on Tuesday, the 14th of April, and the subscription for the season will consist of thirty nights. The company includes the chief favourites of last season—Picolomini, Alboni, Belletti, Beneventano, &c. (though we regret not to observe among them the name of Johanna Wagner); besides several new stars of great Continental fame, especially Mdle. Maria Spezia, Mdle. Angiolina Ortolani, Signor Antonio Giuglini (said to be the greatest tenor in Italy), and Signor Filippo Vialletti, a *basso profondo* of extraordinary power. For the ballet we are to have our old favourite Marie Taglioni, Rosati, Paul Taglioni, and others, together with a host of names as yet unknown in London. Sig. Bonetti is again to hold the office of *Chef d'Orchestre* and Musical Director. On the opening night "La Favorita" is to be produced, with the ballet "La Esmeralda." Three of the new stars, Spezia, Giuglini, and Vialletti, are to appear in the opera; and Mdle. Pocchini, a new *dansuse* of Continental fame, in the ballet. Piccolomini is to arrive early in April, and Alboni by the 1st of May. This great contralto is to make her first appearance this season as the gipsy *Asucena*, in the "Trovatore." "Don Giovanni" is promised with an unprecedented strength of cast; but nothing is said about the production of any new opera this season; from which we infer that Mr. Lumley, during all his researches on the Continent, has not found a single new opera worthy of being brought before the English public.

MR. ELLA'S Second Evening Concert, on the plan of the morning concerts of the Musical Union, took place on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms. The principal instrumental performances were Molique's quartet in B flat, Op. 42; Mendelssohn's pianoforte trio in C minor; and Spohr's sextet in C major. The performers were—violins, Molique and Goffrie; violas, the two Messrs. Blagrove; violoncellos, Piatti and Paque; and pianoforte, Charles Hallé. There were also several pretty glees and madrigals, sung by the members of the Vocal Union. The room was full of fashionable company.

MR. HOWARD GLOVER gave what he himself described as a "gigantic concert for the people" in Drury-lane Theatre on Wednesday morning. It was truly a monster concert. Almost all the eminent vocal and instrumental performers in the metropolis gave their assistance; and the programme presented an immense medley of every description of music. The prices of admission being very low, every part of the theatre was crowded to overflowing, and the concert must have been profitable to the *bénéficiaire*.

A Italian Opera Company, of which Miss Catherine Hayes is the *prima donna*, is now performing in Dublin. They opened on Monday last, with "Lucia di Lammermoor," and the theatre was crowded with a brilliant audience, including the Lord Lieutenant and a number of the nobility. *Lucia* is one of Miss Hayes's best parts, both as a vocal performance and a piece of pathetic acting; and she was received with Irish enthusiasm. The parts of *Edgardo* and *Aston* were well supported by Volpini and Badiali; and the opera, in its *ensemble*, was very effectively got up.

OUR distinguished young pianist, Miss ARABELLA GODDARD, gave the last of her series of three musical soirees on Tuesday last. It was so attractive that her rooms were crowded to the doors, there being scarcely standing-room for the amateurs, who listened with greedy ears to her exquisite performances. The concert was similar in character to the previous one which we described last week; its principal feature being her glorious execution (we cannot use a weaker phrase) of one of those works of Beethoven's latter days—his Sonata in A flat, Op. 110—which, with the help of a few such performers as Miss Goddard, the musical world is now beginning to understand and enjoy. Ernst, who appeared for the first time this season, imparted a great additional interest to this concert. He joined in Mendelssohn's quartet in B minor, along with Miss Goddard, Piatti, and Blagrove, and also (with Miss Goddard) performed his own "Pensées Fugitives" for the piano and violin. He was full of energy, and we never heard him play more exquisitely. There were also some fine vocal pieces sung by Mr. and Madame Weiss, Mdle. Solari, and Mrs. Charles Braham. The success of these concerts has been so great that Miss Goddard has announced a second series to commence on the 25th of this month.

THE THEATRES, &c.

PRINCESS'.—In considering the remarkably elaborate revival of the historical tragedy of "Richard II." it will be proper, notwithstanding the amount of illustration bestowed on the production, to regard in the first place the acting—for, on this occasion, the histrionic excellence maintains an equality with the spectacular, and merits distinct attention. The part of the King, for instance, demands recognition on peculiar grounds. It is a portrait-character, not a mere ideal, and requires peculiar treatment. The dramatist had not felt himself called upon to delineate a perfect hero, but presented the historical man, with his failings and his vices. He was not solicitous to preserve his dignity, but led him through mean and noble actions with equal impartiality; and, when divested of all other titles to respect, claimed sympathy for him as a suffering human being, and furnished him with whatever was needed to make him pathetic in discourse and action. The genius of Mr. C. Kean adjusts itself with extraordinary aptitude to such a delineation. It rejoices in variety and contrast, and is abundant in resources. The play derives its unity from the character, and owing to this circumstance this tragedy is the most regular of the Shakespearean historical dramas. We have, first, the boy King presiding at the dispute between the son of old *Gaunt* and the Duke of Norfolk, misled from the beginning by the former as to the real nature of the quarrel, and accordingly bearing more hard on poor *Mowbray* than on his bolder opponent. His conduct at the tournament is marked not only by the same misapprehension, but displays the inherent weakness of his character. That his "kingdom's earth should not be soiled with that dear blood which it hath fostered," he compromises the issue by the banishment of both parties. This, however, might have resulted from his being a lover of peace; but his behaviour at the death of *Gaunt* proves that it proceeds from an error of constitution and wilful indulgence. When evil days come upon him he would get rid of their pressure by appealing to the divine right of Kings; and, on finding that appeal vain, he indulges in passion and temper, which have no result but that of trying the patience of *Bolingbroke* and showing how well he stands the test. Vain as these displays of emotion are, they nevertheless strongly interest the spectator in the sufferer's favour, and prepare him to admire the desperate heroism of his death. The faults of the King had not originated in cowardice and wrong motives, but in a bad education and untoward circumstances. It is difficult for an actor to hit the due mean in embodying these different phases of fortune and feeling; but we are bound to say that Mr. Kean not only manifested exquisite judgment, but powerful genius, in the manner in which they were successfully discriminated by him. But *Richard's* character needs its contrast in the firm will and proud determination of *Bolingbroke's*; and to no actor could such a part have been intrusted with more confidence than to Mr. Ryder. His natural appearance and demeanour were almost sufficient to carry it through; but thereto he added great intelligence and the utmost care, so that, "take it for all in all," he realised a fine historic portrait. Similar praise may be bestowed on Cooper's *Duke of York*, whose impetuosity and prudence were blended in true artistic proportions. Another picture that struck us as equally grand and accurate was Mr. Lacy's *John of Gaunt*, whose tragic dignity in action and prophetic impulse on his deathbed were admirably preserved. These characters form a group, and serve as such to throw into relief that of the King as a distinct individuality. Not so, however, the character of the Queen—that, like her husband's, is a thing apart; but, unlike that, it is not historical. The Queen is a poetic invention, and one that has been treated with little respect by Shakespearean commentators. In the hands of Mrs. Kean its dramatic or poetic defects were not apparent. She brought to it all that the text suggested rather than supplied; and for majesty, tenderness, and beauty, it may take rank with the best of her dramatic conceptions. Acting like this was worthily supported by the extensive *mise en scène* and picturesque accompaniments which Mr. Kean's taste and liberality had provided for the archaeological illustration of the dramatic action. In this he has exceeded all his former efforts. The exactness and minuteness of the detail, the abundance of antiquarian resources, and the subordination of all to the sentiment and action, in every scene, impress us with the utmost respect for the mind that conceived and the

judgment that applied all this wealth of knowledge to the patriotic purpose of illustrating one of our national annals and great dramatic histories.

Mr. Kean has wisely gone beyond the drama to the chronicles, and between the third and fourth acts has presented to sight the humiliating entry into London of *Richard II.* in the custody of *Bolingbroke*. This is one of the most gorgeous and effective scenes that we ever witnessed on the stage. Commencing with the Dance of Itinerant Fools, as described in "Strutt's Sports and Pastimes of the English," we are present with the multitudes that crowd the streets, the balconies, and the house-tops, and witness numerous little episodes, skilfully acted out by competent performers, preparatory to the main event of the scene. Nothing can be more impressive than the entrance of *Bolingbroke* on his white charger, followed by *Richard* on his humble steed, all sad and woe-begone, utterly subdued by the execrations of the mob. The words recorded by the chroniclers are spoken on the stage by the usurper and the crowd, but *Richard* passes over in melancholy and heartbroken silence. Such an interlude as this Shakespeare would himself have doubtless approved of, as a fitting illustration of historic fact. Its tendency is to realise the whole of the action, and, indeed, the two last acts acquire an interest from its introduction that otherwise they would not possess.

The other scenes, rich and various as they are in their appointments, are strictly confined to their bearing on the actual text. The Privy Council Chamber in the Palace of Westminster presents its walls and roof decorated with the badges and cognizances of *Richard II.*; and the lists of combat at Gosford-green are graced with the Royal pavilion, containing the King enthroned, attended by his nobles, the effect of the scene being enhanced by its apparent interminability. The bed-room in Ely House surrounds the dying hours of old *Gaunt* with appropriate grandeur; while the advance of *Bolingbroke's* army through the wilds of Gloucestershire is actualised to the senses by picturesque artifices and numerous stage expedients. Added to these we have excellent restorations of the entrance to St. Stephen's Chapel, Pembroke Castle, and Flint Castle; with representations of Milford Harbour, Welsh scenery, and certain famous localities of London, such as Westminster Hall and the Traitors' Gate of the Tower. The Dungeon in Pomfret Castle, and St. George's Hall at Windsor, complete the splendid diorama composed by the scenes of this revival.

The costume of the piece is varied and exceedingly attractive. It is principally taken from the illuminations to the French metrical history of King Richard II., written by a contemporary, and preserved in the British Museum; but other works have likewise been consulted with effect. The music also merits notice. It has been composed and adapted by Mr. J. L. Hatton, who has consulted the character of the period. The overture and *entr'actes* are pleasing and striking. One tune, that of the "Itinerant Fools," is as old as the reign of Edward II.—older, in fact, than that of the Morris Dance.

The skill with which all this scenic magnificence has been introduced, without impairing the dramatic interest or interfering with the histrionic excellence, deserves more than ordinary praise. That it has been bestowed on a worthy drama, developing much of our national history, full of patriotic feeling, and comprehending a political moral of the highest importance, is a further reason for congratulating Mr. Kean and the public on the revival—the former for his taste and enterprise, so laudably exhibited; and the latter for the patronage by which his efforts have been so consistently encouraged.

OLYMPIC.—"Thieves! Thieves!" is the title of a farce produced on Thursday week. It is a merely occasional piece, suggested by recent burglarious attacks, and sets forth how Mrs. Dashwood (Miss Swanborough), a young widow, living in a retired villa, becomes the object of admiration to a gentleman, Mr. Lushington (Mr. G. Vining), and an apothecary, the former of whom passes himself off as an homoeopathic doctor. It is, however, on the latter that the fun depends—to wit, Mr. Brown done by Mr. Robson. The two lovers determine to play on the lady's feelings through the medium of a pretended burglary, by which she is finally terrified into accepting Mr. Lushington's hand, and Mr. Brown, still more frightened, is driven to seek refuge in the chimney. He is at length released from his uncomfortable position, covered with soot, and trembling with apprehension. This incident brought the curtain down with applause.

LYCEUM.—The tragedy of "Virginius" was revived on Friday week. The performance of the *Roman Father* by Mr. Dillon was exceedingly impressive, and won on the appreciation of the audience with increasing power. His last three acts were vehemently applauded, and at the conclusion a triumphant ovation was awarded to him. His principal excellence lay in the more pathetic parts of the character.

ASTLEY'S.—Shakespeare still continues in the ascendant, and receives equestrian illustration at this theatre. The first part of "Henry the Fourth" has been selected for the purpose, and the numerous outdoor scenes give abundant opportunity for the employment of Mr. Cooke's stud. The innyard with the Gadshill carriers is full of horses, the travellers, too, arrive on horseback, the *Prince* and *Poins* only walk when they cannot help it, and *Falstaff* has new opportunities of displaying his obese awkwardness in the management of his steed, which, of course, he mounts and dismounts with difficulty. On the battlefield the horses find an appropriate arena; and the equestrian conflict between *Harry* and *Hotspur*, in which the animal is killed as well as his rider, produces a novelty of feeling which it is amusing to experience. The spectacle cannot fail of being immensely attractive.

MR. THACKERAY has entered into arrangements to deliver his lectures on the Four Georges under the direction of Mr. Beale, commencing in London immediately after he has concluded his present tour in the provinces.

MR. W. H. RUSSELL has arranged with Mr. Beale to give a personal narrative of his travels in the East during and subsequent to the late war. Amongst the many distinguished names associated with the Crimean expedition none have been received with stronger expressions of public favour than that of Mr. Russell; and his admirers will doubtless hail the opportunity of hearing from his own lips the story of his interesting adventures—the peculiarity of his position as a newspaper correspondent having naturally precluded him from alluding to many circumstances which he will now be at liberty to disclose.

THE CHINA WAR.—In all probability a powerful British squadron, with a landing force, will shortly appear in the China Sea, and will suffice, if not to engage in a general war against the Celestial Empire, at least to guarantee the security of the European navigation along the coast, to protect the island of Hong-Kong from any serious danger, and perhaps, if necessary, to protect the establishment of Shanghai. The factories of Canton, the establishment of Whampoa, and the opium station of Ling-ting, have been abandoned by the Europeans. Should the Court of Peking take part with the Governor of Canton, foreign merchants will be compelled to evacuate the ports of Fou-tschou-fou, Amoy, and of Ning-po, where they are too limited in number to organise proper means of defence. The port of Shanghai, to which we have already alluded, remains in the hands of the English; the Europeans occupy a separate quarter, which they fortified in 1853, repulsing the insurgents. They can be protected by the cannon of the vessels of war anchored before their factories, and by a land force which could be transported there by the English squadron without any great obstacles. The defence of the English will be concentrated on two points—Hong-Kong, where the merchants of Canton and Whampoa have taken refuge, and Shanghai, which has become the most important port for European commerce. Should the English be compelled to abandon Shanghai, Hong-Kong will offer them a certain refuge, and there would be established the headquarters of the new Chinese war. The naval and military forces possessed by England at the present moment in China are about sufficient to resist the attacks of the Mandarins, but they must be strongly reinforced if England should be compelled by the force of events, or by a sense of her own dignity, to assume the offensive and declare war. It has been said that the Chinese rebels and the pirates who infect the Canton river have joined the Mandarins against the British vessels, and this circumstance has been exalted into a display of patriotic feeling on the part of the Chinese. But the civic virtues of the Chinese pirates are not of a character to excite this admiration. The following explanation is far more simple. It is probable that the Mandarins have promised *parcels* feathers and much money to the pirates, who, like genuine condottieri, fight on the side which promises most plunder. The history of China is full of analogous incidents. The profession of pirate, if carried out on a large scale, is the means of attaining the dignity of Mandarin. It has been asserted, and this would be more serious, that the Emperor of Russia has promised to support the Emperor of China in the event of his territory being invaded by the English. It is at this moment the fashion to see the Russians in every political question; but reason teaches that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg is not, and cannot be, mixed up in the question.—*Constitutionnel*.

The estimate for the new Houses of Parliament for the current year is £138,000, and £60,000 is required on account.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF THE FINE ARTS.

THIS Exhibition at the Portland Gallery, in Regent-street, so far from having any significance as a representation of "national" art is, it must be confessed by all but some of its partisans, one of the most mediocre exhibitions of the season. Several of its more noticeable works are distinguished chiefly by the mere pedantry of a schism in art which, even taking its best productions, bears but a small proportion to the general fruits of the nation's artistic culture. The present development of art may have been accelerated by recent movements, but we are inclined to attribute it to other agencies not only co-ordinate but superior to, and which preceded, these so-called reforms. Much talent has been misdirected by certain teachers, but we have no apprehension that it will, like an iron band round a young oak, prevent the continued vigorous growth of art. Perverse genius itself will only cling a feeble parasite, and often pass as an unsightly excrescence. The small space at the disposal of the Royal Academy leads unquestionably to much injustice, especially to landscape-painters; and we sympathise with every protest against exclusive tendencies, but we cannot recognise the claim here set up to found anything like a school of British art while supported so insufficiently. All art should undoubtedly be fairly represented; but the public must decide what has "national" importance. Certainly, after keeping up a smart walk along these lengthy walls and screens, and being so comparatively seldom arrested by works meriting careful examination, the opinion of that public cannot be very favourable. We recommend the "proprietary members" in their next exhibition to select more carefully, and at once to sink their "nationality."

Among 527 pictures there are, of course, some meritorious works, and these we hasten to describe; but before proceeding in detail we may at once mention that upon three of the best pictures in the Exhibition we reserve our observations, as we purpose presenting our readers with Engravings from them—viz., "Meg Merrilies and the Dying Smuggler" (182), by Mr. Lander, R.S.A.; "A Family Group" (400), by Mr. Willis; and "Haymaking in Switzerland—Lausanne" (66), by Mr. Moore.

Besides the above-mentioned effective picture by Mr. Lander, there is another equally striking, "The Death of Arthur, Duke of Bretagne" (286). The hard struggles and the cruel end of the young Duke of Brittany form the nucleus of interest in the play of "King John," and the fate of Arthur is the great connecting link which binds together all the varied series of actions. In the picture the young prisoner is lying, pale and lifeless, at the foot of the castle wall, from which he threw himself in despair. Near the body stands *Faulconbridge*, sternly expressing his suspicion to *Hubert* of his foul play, although immediately before he defended the crouching Chamberlain from the fury of the Lords who have just retired. The stalwart Knight stands in "the great composition of the man"—a perfect realisation of that *Cœur-de-Lion* from whom he was proud to claim an illegitimate descent. His giant limbs bear their weight of chain-mail hauberk as easily as a maiden supports satin bodice or silken scarf. He stands leaning on his enormous sword athwart the sunset like a thundercloud, his head covered with its mail-coif and conical helmet, placed right before the angry sun, his features darkly looming, and his eyes flashing portentously upon the scared and deprecating form before him. *Hubert* is plainly too weak to be the assassin; and this, contrasted with the inflexible manhood and lofty pride of *Faulconbridge*, is an equally fine pictorial as dramatic antithesis. It may be objected that the incidental rays are incorrect, but much license in this particular has always been necessarily allowed to painters.

There is an attractive study of a semi-nude female figure (No. 364), by Mr. Hay, which has much vivacity of colour, although a little wanting in sobriety of tone and anatomical discrimination. The picture is all milk and roses. The white skin is opposed to rich drapery and many-coloured roses; with these, and the flowing black hair intertwined with pearls, the whole painting seems affluent of beauty, colour, and fragrance. The laughing eye is heavy and voluptuous with its weight of fringed lashes, but the head is too much inclined to admit of a due recognition of the expression of the features.

Of a totally different style in its unpretending simplicity is "A Rugged Path" (79), by Mr. Dukes. The work has much good modelling and pleasant painting. The woman's head with her dishevelled hair and laughing face looking up at the gleeful child is very successful.

A picture by Mr. W. Underhill, "The Mountain Stream" (87), and another, "Harvesters' Repast" (462), by Mr. F. Underhill, are both excellent in general effect and solidity. The touch is also broad and firm; and these being rare qualities (as may especially be seen in this Exhibition), we remark, with some hesitation, that we should like to see more truth in particulars.

Mr. Marks has, heretofore, distinguished himself for his appreciation of Shakspearean humour, but "Christopher Sly" (299) approaches rather too near the vulgarity of caricature. In the "Introduction" to the "Taming of the Shrew," after the drunken tinker has been unconsciously surrounded with all the paraphernalia which some think goes far to constitute "a lord," the most humorous trait is when Sly, on waking, begins to entertain the conviction that he is "a lord, indeed," and assumes the consequent importance. This the artist has seized with tolerable success. All the rest—the awkward attitude; the sottish, bloated face; the pumpkin head, and coarse hands—are, as caricature has been described, more like than the reality. Much of the detail is "picked out," as in many works of the so-called pre-Raphaelite school here exhibited, with a care inversely to its relative importance. These objections apply with much less force to two other paintings by Mr. Marks. "Returning from the Conventicle" (69) is a close-cut, formal-looking Puritan, carrying his Bible or book of "Spiritual Songs" with nauseous ostentation as he leaves the conventicle door, evidently as full of pride as he should be, at the moment, of humility. The other work is entitled "Puritan Barracks" (48). One of those whom Butler calls "a mongrel kind of church dragons" is sitting, with sinister aspect, smoking in a church, the decorations of which he has helped to demolish. The head is centred before the distant stained-glass window with good effect.

Mr. Kossiter is another artist who aims at realising what he considers the simple truth before him with patient stippie and minute finish. "Modern Minstrelsy" (321)—simply two boys with "bones" and "banjo"—is, with much faithfulness, as unambitious in theme as it is intentionally unsuggestive in handling.

In a still lower degree of simple imitation we must place "The Divining Peel" (170), by Mr. Smallfield. We spare our readers any explanation of the trivial subject depicted, but it is our duty to protest against the waste of evident powers of imitation upon an incident so inane.

There are two or three painters who attempt a compromise between the helplessness of that art whose whole experience goes for nothing, and of that in which experience sinks into mere complacent conventionality. For instance, in Mr. Egley's picture, "The Taming of the Shrew" (307), we have somewhat pre-Raphaelite textures, colour, and composition; but although the choice of heads is not happy they are not irredeemably commonplace.

Another example of this union of eclecticism and realism is afforded by Mr. Nash, in "The Bride's Sister" (300). The bouquet of flowers, the coronal of pearls and other accessories, have much truthful elaboration; but the face, if not exactly a classical profile, is idealised in colour, and in expression at once saintly and silly. The breathing nostril and sighing lips are, however, well expressed, and withal so tenderly and sweetly that you look at them lingeringly—almost as you would hang over the flowers were they real and just cut, as indeed they seem to be.

Mr. Pasmore's pictures resemble tinted woodcuts. They are rather liny and frail, because the artist trusts more to lines than masses. Instead of masses and gradation we have a few patches of colour in the lights and the rest made out in outline, with certainly very elegant, though slightly finical, nicety, and filled in with washes of warm brown. There is, nevertheless, extreme gracefulness in his conventionalities and luxuriance in his fancy. The entire mastery over any particular manner, however, always proves it confirmed. Thus to have seen one of Mr. Pasmore's works would lead to the instant recognition of any other. We content ourselves, therefore, by indicating general characteristics, and merely mention that Nos. 46, 125, and 388 are by this pleasing artist, and that the last is the best.

There is little invention in a scene from "The Tempest" (409), by Mr. Nash; and it may be said that most pictures of this class are merely pretty, but the colouring is more juicy, and the forms, though less correct, are more pulpy and fleshlike than in some similar figures by Mr. Frost.

There is a fine powerful full-length portrait (No. 434), by Mr. Worsey; but fresh atmospheric greys are ignored in the effort at "old-masterish" effects—or say rather those of old Time.

A small picture on one of the screens, by Mr. Lawless, "Ravenswood" (480), deserves attention for its delicacy of perception and refinement of execution, although the figure is hardly the dark, haughty, mysterious, passionate hero of Scott, and something grander and less effeminate held poor Lucy spellbound.

"The Painter's Studio" (120), by Mr. Wingfield, affords a kind of peep behind the curtain sufficiently amusing to the unprofessional public. The composition of the picture is good, and the model, in her brilliant brocade, is a very charming study. We should have expected, however, that the painter would have been a little more ambitious to display his drawing of the antique in the casts of his studio.

Before quitting the figure subject pictures, we must mention the following artists, as their works claim the notice and appreciation of visitors, viz., those of Mrs. Murray, and Messrs. Mann, Wivell, Haynes, Clay, M'lan, R.S.A., Cowie, Bell Smith, and Wyon.

All the animals are well painted in the "Farmyard—Team Going Out" (418), by Messrs. Rolfe and Hering. The cattle are well grouped, and the cock holds up his head like a veritable Sultan in the midst of his rustic harem.

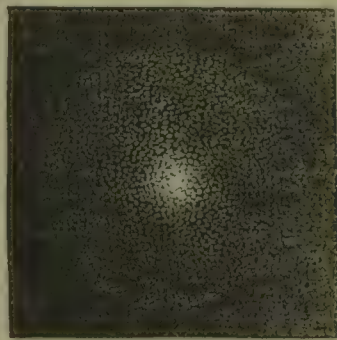
There is a still-life piece (No. 34), by Mr. Duffield, of great excellence. The Dutch tankard and the corded texture of the carpet are capital. The fresh juicy succulence of the melon, and the dull, more cloying, richness of the pine, are also nicely distinguished.

A few landscapes, particularly those by Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Percy, and the Messrs. Williams, which possess the well-known qualities and customary excellence of these artists, we must defer the consideration of till next week.

D'ARREST'S COMET.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

THE telescopic comet, discovered by M. D'Arrest at Leipsic, on Feb. 23, and which has hitherto been visible only during the mornings, may now be seen shortly after sunset in the north-west part of the sky. It is daily becoming brighter, and can be easily detected with the assistance of a telescope of moderate power, although it will require a clear sky and horizon to be able to see it to advantage. It arrives at perihelion on March 21, and will be situated for the remainder of the month in the constellation Andromeda, passing within a short distance of the star 22 Andromedæ on March 22. At the beginning of April it passes into the constellation of Perseus, and on the 9th of April will be situated near the star Iota



Persei (of the fourth magnitude). On the morning of March 5 (see Engraving) it presented the usual appearance of telescopic comets—viz., a hazy nebulous mass, nearly round, with a bright head of a pale bluish colour, situated nearly at the centre, which might almost be mistaken for a perfect stellar nucleus at times. The whole nebulosity was upwards of a minute in diameter, and the nucleus was as bright as a star of the seventh magnitude.

THE WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 18, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 A.M. 88 feet above level of sea, corrected and reduced.	Height Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Adapted Mean Temperature.	Dry Bulb		Wet Bulb		Direction of Wind.	Amount of Cloud. (0-10)	Rain in Inches.
					9 A.M.	3 P.M.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.			
Mar. 12	30.049	44.6	28.6	36.6	35.1	33.6	44.3	41.0	W.	8	0.000
" 13	29.822	46.5	28.2	37.7	37.5	35.4	44.5	39.5	S.	7	0.007
" 14	29.064	54.1	30.1	42.1	45.2	44.4	51.7	44.8	S.W.S.W.	7	0.029
" 15	29.260	47.5	41.3	43.2	45.4	41.1	46.0	40.8	SW.	0	0.006
" 16	29.966	51.8	30.4	43.1	43.8	41.2	50.8	44.4	SW.	0	0.000
" 17	29.923	52.2	29.1	42.7	44.7	41.3	49.0	44.2	SE.	5	0.015
" 18	29.814	60.8	35.6	50.9	50.3	48.5	60.5	54.4	SE.	6	0.000
Means	29.700	51.1	31.9	42.6	43.1	40.8	49.5	44.2			0.077

The range of temperature during the week was 32.6°. Hoar frost was noticed on the mornings of March 12, 13, and 17, and on the night of the 15th. Rain was falling on the evening of the 13th, on the morning of the 14th, on the afternoon of the 15th, and shortly after midnight of the 17th. The weather was very stormy, and the wind blowing with great violence, on the evening of the 13th, and the days of the 14th and 15th. A dense fog suddenly sprung up at 1h. a.m. of the 17th.

A well-defined solar halo was visible between noon and 1h. p.m. of the 13th, which was slightly coloured at the upper part. The zodiacal light was noticed on the nights of the 15th and 16th. The weather has been changeable, but the sky very clear at times.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION. Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOMETER.		WIND.		RAIN in 24 hours. Read at 10 A.M.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum read at 10 A.M.	Maximum read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	
Mar. 11	30.951	34.3	26.1	75	10	32.0	38.6	E. S. W.	151	.048
" 12	30.036	36.3	30.4	81	7	28.8	43.3	SW.	139	.000
" 13	29.705	37.1	31.3	81	6	33.8	41.8	S.	431	.000
" 14	29.157	49.1	40.5	74	8	35.4	54.8	S. W. S.	647	.165
" 15	29.335	30.4	31.1	72	6	43.5	48.2	WSW.	618	.129
" 16	30.001	54.3	35.9	77	2	33.9	52.3	WSW.	280	.112
" 17	30.826	45.4	38.5	79	6	31.7	53.3	SSE.	220	.000

The daily means are obtained from observations made at 6h. and 10h. a.m., and 2h., 6h., and 10h. p.m., on each day, except Sunday, when the first observation is omitted. The corrections for diurnal variation are taken from the Tables of Mr. Glaisher. The "Dew-point" and "Relative Humidity" are calculated from observations of the dry and wet bulb thermometers, by Dr. Apjohn's Formula and Dalton's Tables of the Tension of Vapour. The movement of the wind is given by a self-recording Robinson's Anemometer, the amount stated for each day being that registered from midnight to midnight.

EASTERN CHURCH QUARRELS.—The Greeks are renewing their vexatious proceedings towards other Christian sects. The Copts possess a small chapel built against the monument which covers the Sepulchre of the Saviour, and, as it was recently damaged in the disturbances which took place on the occasion of the Greek ceremony of the "sacred fire," the Copts wished to repair it; but the Greeks demanded of the Governor of Jerusalem to prevent them from so doing, on the pretext that, in virtue of an ancient firman, they alone had the right to make repairs in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, even in the portions possessed by other communions. It was subsequently ascertained, however, that the Latins possessed another firman of a more recent date, which annulled wholly, or in part, that of the Greeks, both as regards themselves and other sects. The Greeks, then, abandoning their firman, declared that orders from Constantinople gave them the right which they claimed. The Copts represented that this was not so, and that the proof of it was that other communions had, within a year, made repairs in their chapels; but the Greeks have appealed to Constantinople; and, as they are rich, powerful, and unscrupulous, it is feared they will obtain a decision in their favour. The Copts have, however, it is said, appealed to the protection of the British Consul at Jerusalem.—Letter from Jerusalem, 15th ult.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE piercing cold of Doncaster followed "the ring" to their Salisbury Plain tryst. Here Mr. T. Parr achieved a double success with Apathy and Fisherman; Lord Ribblesdale, who seems one of fortune's favourites, cleared out all the two-year-old fields with Happy Land by Jericho; and Vaulter, whose previous performance this year had not been promising, made short work of Martinet and Tricolor. Warwick had the first meeting of "cracks" this season in the Trial Stakes. Gemma di Vergy, of whom it was averred by his trainer in the witness-box the week before that he was worth 2000 guineas, was made first favourite for the Trial Stakes; but Fisherman, who gave him 23 lb., over the Mile Course did what he liked with him and Stork; while Wentworth and Melissa finished at intervals of several lengths. The latter made no figure in the race, and, as she was not in the betting, we may take it that she was not "fit," and jump to no rash conclusions about her real 1857 form. Lord Nelson gave note on both days that he may not be such a dear £700 purchase after all. Tame Deer received 5 lb., and gave Gaudy, the first of Lord Zetland's team which has appeared this season, a clever beating in the Great Warwickshire; and Greenwich Fair pulled through a race by a neck against two inferior style of horses. Vedette is still a great 2000 Guinea favourite; Sydney (the gentleman with a temper) at 6 to 1, a point behind him; and Apathy at 10 to 1. Blink Bonny has come to 11 to 1 for the Derby. Kent seems to have a strong party; and there are 50 to 1 nibbles at Skirmisher, whose temper and lack of a strong hand on him will, we think, be fatal at Northampton. This festival of St. Crispin will see all the turf stars once more in conjunction on Wednesday and Thursday. Skirmisher, Sir Colin, and St. Giles, are the favourites of the public for the stakes on the first day; but Adamas, Commoner, and Codrington, are more our ideal order of merit. Madame Clicquot, Gemma di Vergy, and Odd Trick, are in the Whittlebury Stakes, where the weights have been very judiciously altered 4 lb. Earl Spencer's Plate, on Thursday, is one of the right sort of handicaps, 9 st. 10 lb. to 5 st. 8 lb. (before the acceptances); but, if there is any improvement in the racing world, the Messrs. Marshall are the first to adopt it, and hence the uniform success of all the meetings where they preside. The Racing Stakes may bring out Sir Colin, St. Giles, and Gemma di Vergy over the mile course; and Happy Land, 5 lb. extra, ought to get rid of all the public horses we know of in the Althorp Park Stakes. Instead of waiting till the Derby week, the Althorp yearlings come to the hammer in front of the Grand Stand an hour before the races on Thursday. Among the five colts there is only one by Cotherstone, a brother to Glenmasson, out of a Prian mare; and of the seven fillies, the one whose blood has annually brought most is the own sister to Punicestone. Seven out of the lot are young Newcourt's, who seems to have quite superseded Cotherstone at Althorp. On Monday the Masons' eighteen horses are to be sold at Tattersall's, as well as a brother to Hospodar, the Mummy (the last, we believe, of Memnon's stock), and three of his scions, &c. Habena has retired, and roams, along with Blue Bonnet and Cymba, at Kingston's paddocks, where the list is very nearly full; and Alice Hawthorn, with a sister to Lady Hawthorn at her foot, is at Sweetmeat's. Kingston is, to our minds, about the most perfect-looking animal at the stud.

Hunting is now rather in the "Ware! vixen!" style; and for some days past the warmth and changeableness of the weather have sadly cut up the scent. Melton is still overflowing with horses, and a new stud arrived there lately; but some of the scarlets are wooing the sweet voices of their constituents instead of the Cream Gorse or Tilton Wood melodies. Mr. Davis, who is now engaged in teaching the Heir Apparent how to cross country, declines a testimonial—no reason, however, why it should not proceed. The Tyndale foxhounds had their best run of the season on Friday, from Bitchfield Gorse, with only one check occasioned by sheep, to Pinch-ear, near Bellingham, where they ran into him. Time 2h. 15m.—only Major Bell, the first whip, and three others up at the finish.

Steeplechases will come off at Birmingham (Jean du Quesne, 11 st. 7 lb., top weight), on Tuesday; Gainsborough and Llandillo, on Wednesday; Moreton in the Marsh, on Thursday; and Charlbury, on Saturday; while Ireland will besport itself at Ballymore, on Monday; Cashel, on Monday and Tuesday; the Irish Metropolitan, on Wednesday; and Kilmallock, on Thursday.

A very capital coursing season fast approaches its close. In England it is virtually over, and a bumper at Biggar (where Mr. Borron has four Open Cup nominations) on Monday, &c., will end it in Scotland; whereas Ireland has its North Union (Antrim) on Wednesday, and will not think of giving up its "see-hows" till May 7th!

The University boat race is fixed for Friday, April 3rd, the day after the "Metropolitan." So anxious is Alma Mater to let the world know the respective weight of her sons, that the present list descends to half pounds, and in fact one Corpus man is registered at 12 st. 2½ lbs. ! If he does not rigidly obey the anti-potato and pastry rules of training, this fine balance may be disturbed.

WARWICK SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Handicap of 10 sovs.—Lord Nelson, 1. Early Bird, 2. Trial Stakes.—Fisherman, 1. Gemma di Vergy, 2. Sweepstakes of 5 sovs.—Cocktail's dam colt, 1. Auricula, 2. Willoughby Handicap.—Myterious Jack, 1. Poodle, 2. Farmers' Plate.—Warwick, 1. Jenny Jones, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Welter Handicap.—Prince of Orange, 1. Typhon, 2. Two-year-old Stakes.—Greenwich Fair, 1. Patience, 2. Great Warwickshire Handicap.—Tame Deer, 1. Gaudy, 2. Dobbale Stakes.—Royalty, 1. Brigadier, 2. Sweepstakes of 5 sovs.—Castaway, 1. Laura Selina, 2. Handicap Plate.—Lord Nelson, 1. Octavia, 2.

THURSDAY.

Handicap Plate, £40.—Plausible, 1. Garnet, 2. Annual Steeplechase.—Weathercock, 1. Minerva, 2. Hurdle Race.—Jean du Quesne, 1.

HOW AMERICA TREATS HER ARCTIC HEROES.

THE latest news from the United States informs us of the honour paid throughout the country to the memory of Dr. Kane, who departed this life at Havannah, on the 11th ult., from paralysis and apoplexy, having just completed his 35th year. The body of Dr. Kane was, on the 16th, attended to the place of embarkation by the chief authorities and American citizens, and placed on board the *Cahuaba* steamer, where the governor of the city pronounced a very elegant address in Spanish, paying honour to the merit of Dr. Kane, to which the United States' Consul replied.

The *Cahuaba* arrived at New Orleans on the 23rd, and the remains of Dr. Kane were at once conveyed to the Townhall, where they laid in state until removed to another steamer for Louisville, en route for Philadelphia, the native city of Dr. Kane, and the residence of his family. At New York the flag of the capital was directed by the State Senate to be hung at half-mast for two weeks, as a token of respect to his memory.

At Philadelphia the reception would be still more solemn and impressive, and it had been decided that the body should lie in state in the Old Hall of Independence, where the Deed of Independence was signed. We copy from the report of a meeting held here the following (one of several resolutions) remarkable for its suggestive reference to the duty of England towards her missing sons:—

"Resolved, that the English people owe (and we doubt not will gladly pay) to Dr. Kane this especial gratitude, that he, more than any other, by the power of his pen and the influence of his example, awakened the interest of America to the career and fate of those heroic men whose undiscovered destiny is yet the problem of this age of active enterprise."

The last resolution affirms that a copy of the proceedings of the meeting, duly engrossed and authenticated, shall be communicated to such British and other authorities as best represent those whose kindness to Dr. Kane it is desired to commemorate.

THE "RESOLUTE."—(From our Correspondent).—By our latest advices from America we learn that the recent treatment by the Admiralty of this renowned ship, the gift of the United States to this country as a token of sympathy in the search for Franklin (such being the motive given in the resolution of Congress) has produced some severe and not undeserved comments.

RUSSIAN INTRIGUES IN BULGARIA.—The custom-house officers of Galatz lately seized a great number of Slavonian books, which were about to be smuggled into Bulgaria. They contained among other matters prayers in which it is asked from Heaven to destroy the Ottoman empire, and to give it to the orthodox Emperor. What is singular is, that these books contain a notice, according to which they have been printed by order of the Emperor Alexander II., and with the consent of the synod of the Greek Church.—*Trieste Gazette*.

S K E T C H E S I N S O U T H E R N A U S T R A L I A .

As the aboriginal tribes of Australia disappear before the march of civilisation, it may be interesting to chronicle pictorially a few of their peculiarities and characteristics. This we are enabled to do by aid of the sketch-books of travelled correspondents and the assistance of photography—the two accompanying Portraits, fine specimens of the natives of South Australia, being engraved from photographs recently received from that colony.

The taking of the Emu is a favourite sport of the aborigines:—The emu is caught in very large nets, twenty yards long and five feet high, which are here made of the roots of the marsh, baked and chewed, and then spun. Several natives will watch the emus as they go to drink at the lagoons, having heard the birds whistling, and set their nets in readiness; they then drive the emus towards the

The aboriginal method of courtship would not be admired by white ladies. The native, having determined on his future spouse—who is generally selected from another tribe—steals upon her secretly when she is at a little distance from the protectors, and stuns her by striking her with a wooden club or wattle, and then drags her away to his own tribe. This is often the cause of their going to war.

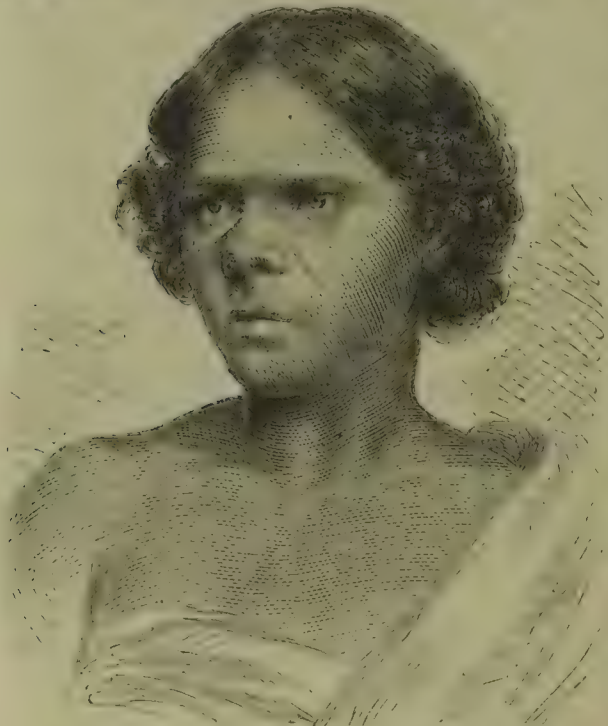
Naturally, the natives wear no clothing; but, if any article of dress be given them, they are proud to array themselves in it. The manner in which they wrap a blanket around them, fastening it over one shoulder, is very graceful. The women are exceedingly susceptible to gay colours—I suppose the nature of the sex is the same in all climes—and accept a bright pocket handkerchief or a few beads with as much delight as an English girl would receive a Parisian bonnet, or a souvenir from Howell and James's.

The greatest passion of the aborigines is revenge; and, even if one of them dies a natural death, they fling spears at one of his friends until blood appears—hence their universal hostility to the white man. They can never forget nor forgive the atrocities perpetrated upon them by some of the early settlers, who at one time used to hunt them down like wild beasts, and fire at any they came upon, however inoffensive they might be.

The features of the aborigines are not pleasing, being very coarse. Their lips are thick, with flat noses and low, receding foreheads. They

are not, generally speaking, tall or well made, neither are they particularly strong. Their going about in such numbers alone makes them dangerous.

The number of aborigines is not great, and it is steadily decreasing. Several tribes have already wholly disappeared. Many efforts have been made to protect them, and to induce them to adopt settled and industrious habits, but with various success. Schools have been established by the Government, but the young people almost invariably when passing out of childhood, throw off their clothes and return to



WOMAN OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

nets, where other natives are lying in ambush; the birds get frightened and entangled, the natives rush upon them, and when in the net seize hold of them and kill them with spears and wirris. They catch the wallaby with nets about fifteen yards long and two feet high: parties go out and set these nets across the paths which the animals take when they come out of the bush to feed, and women are sent round to the further end of the thicket, where they make a loud noise, and drive the wallaby into the nets. The larger View presents a specimen of the romantic river scenery of the interior of Australia; the cataract and mountain vegetation forming a very picturesque illustration.

Mrs. Clay, in her very agreeable volume of Australian experiences, gives the following characteristics of the aborigines:—

I have heard some intelligent colonists remark that the low condition of the aborigines may perhaps be traced to the peculiar state of the country they inhabit. There is nothing indigenous like rice or corn—no grain; so that the greater portion of their life and ingenuity is devoted to the capture of the kangaroo and other animals. Instead, therefore, of their mental organs being called into action by a variety of wants, objects, or pursuits, the necessity for invention or construction has been lessened, and their whole energies concentrated upon the one great object of their existence—the chase. This must degrade man to a mere creature of instinct; and to such a state the aborigines of Australia appear reduced.

As regards the religion of the natives, I believe their principal belief is in an evil spirit, of which they have a great dread, imagining that it walks about at night; and they therefore avoid, when dark, the vicinity of their burial-grounds. These burial-grounds I have attempted to describe elsewhere. They frequently burn the aged dead; and, should a woman die having a young infant, the living child is buried with the mother. The name of the dead is never mentioned; and any one in the same tribe having a similar name is obliged to take another.



THE DEAD EMU.



MAN OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

their native haunts and habits. A few girls become house servants, but they are easily induced to leave for the woods. Of late there has, however, been a somewhat important change. The impossibility of obtaining a sufficient number of white shepherds and labourers caused many stockkeepers to offer good money wages to the natives, instead of merely giving them food and clothes, as was before the custom, and to adapt the service to their feelings. The result is said to have been very generally beneficial. They show little inclination, or rather considerable dislike, for manual labour; but they make very good hut-keepers, are careful and gentle as shepherds, and make excellent stock-keepers; and large numbers are now so employed, as well as in wool-washing, and other work connected with sheep and cattle farming. It remains to be seen, however, whether it will be possible to overcome to any extent their migratory habits, which have hitherto always prevented any permanent settlement.

In South Australia there seems to be much satisfaction felt at the change in the aborigines. The "Protector of the Aborigines" in that colony states that upwards of 200,000 sheep were in June, 1852, under the sole charge of native shepherds. A training institution for aborigines has been established at Adelaide, chiefly by the exertions of Archdeacon Hale, who resides on the establishment. He says that even his "own sanguine expectations did not lead him to anticipate a success so complete and triumphant as that which has attended our efforts, nor so rapid an increase in the number of our inmates." Besides the school-room, mess-room, &c., there are twenty huts occupied by native married couples. There is also a small farm, the work of which, with herding, cattle-keeping, &c., is done by the inmates of the institution, who are also taught brickmaking, building, and other useful occupations.



RIVER FALL IN THE INTERIOR OF AUSTRALIA.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE IN WHICH CHATTERTON DIED, IN BROOK-STREET, HOLBORN.

If any one were to go into Brook-street, which runs in a line below, and for some distance parallel with, Gray's-inn-lane from Holborn-hill, and inquire of the shopkeepers which house in that street it was in which Chatterton the poet for some time lived (or rather starved) and unfortunately died, you would be told that no one of that name

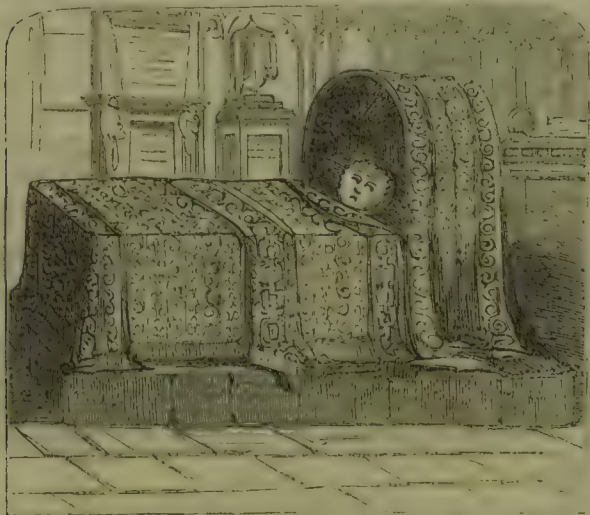


CHATTERTON'S HOUSE, BROOK-STREET, HOLBORN.

was known there; and if, in endeavouring to refresh the memory, you mentioned the now generally-recognised ability of the struggling lad, and the sad means he was driven, in a great measure by stern necessity, to use, some of the neighbours would say, "Bless me! Sir, I have not read anything about it in the papers." Before making search for Chatterton's house we looked over the *Gentleman's Magazine* and some of the contemporary newspapers, thinking to find an account of the circumstances of the young poet's death, but found no mention of it, his fame was not then of sufficient note to attract much notice. However, we managed to learn that it was in the house of Mrs. Angle, a sackmaker in Brook-street, that Chatterton, a day or two after he had by accident tumbled into an open grave in Old St. Pancras graveyard, died, and was removed for interment to the burial-ground belonging to the parish in which paupers were chiefly interred. The house, a little while ago, formed part of Steffanoni's furniture warehouses, and was in a tattered and ruinous condition, but has recently been repaired. It would be well if some inscription could be put on the houses which are so often passed without notice in the London streets, for we much want all aids to break the long monotonous rows of bricks and mortar.

TOMB OF THE INFANT DAUGHTER OF JAMES I., IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

IN the north aisle of Henry VII.'s Chapel—in which is the grave of Addison, a stone to whose memory was put up not long since—is the simple and somewhat appropriate tomb here noticed. This monument,



TOMB OF THE INFANT DAUGHTER OF JAMES I., IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

as will be seen by referring to the Engraving, is in shape like the old-fashioned cradle, and is composed of cream-coloured marble; parts are ornamented with the richly-carved diaper pattern so much in use in the days of Queen Elizabeth and King James. In the cradle, the head resting on a cushion, is the effigy of the little child, very finely sculptured, and which looks like a portrait. Over the lower part of the figure is a coverlet, also covered with profuse ornament. The whole has probably been highly coloured and gilt, and must have had a very beautiful effect.

At a short distance from this characteristic specimen of the artistic design and workmanship of the period is a plain yet elegantly-formed marble tablet, surmounted by a vase. A Latin inscription states that this memorial was placed here by Charles II. to mark the spot to which some human remains had been removed from the Tower. These bones were said to have been all that remained of the unfortunate Princess who were murdered by order of the Duke of Gloucester, and were dug up at the basement of that grim yet picturesque gateway called the "Bloody Tower," where this double murder is said to have been committed. If any of our readers should feel inclined to visit this spot, and judge for himself of the probability of the traditionary account being correct, he would do well to apply for leave to see the interior of the upper part of the gate, in which are the ropes, pulleys, and wheels used for raising and lowering the portcullis. The apartments are now occupied by modern furniture. The chief room—in which the tragic scene is said to have taken place—is strongly panelled with wood. In one part is a sort of closet, access to which is obtained by steps in the upper part of the building. This agrees with the idea we have of the "lug," or listening-place, described by Sir Walter Scott in "The Fortunes of Nigel," to which King James



THE OLD ARSENAL IN DANTZIC.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

resorted for the purpose of overhearing his prisoners. This closet is at such a height from the floor that it has evidently not been intended for the use of the inmates of this room. Whether or not this is the place in which the Royal children died, it is clearly shown that various dark and terrible deeds have been here perpetrated; and it is impossible to look about the passages and dark nooks with unmoved feelings. But, however, having borrowed a large key, the visitor will be directed to go below the archway of the gate, and, on the east side, pull, if he can, the huge door of thick hard wood and iron. This is no easy matter for one person to do, owing to its immense weight. Behind the gate there is a small door, which the key opens, into an arched chamber, lighted by a small window. Here the bones were found, in Charles II.'s days, at a short depth below the surface.

There are some other monuments in this corner of the Abbey to which we may have an opportunity of referring on some future occasion; but we will at present only glance at the canopied tomb

of Queen Elizabeth, for the purpose of observing the evident fidelity of the figure to nature. The figure is not robed in Greek and Roman costume, but in the farthingale, ruffs, and other portions of the dress which she actually wore in her lifetime. The head does not show Elizabeth in the spring time of her days, but as the crafty, self-willed, and, in some respects, foolish woman she became towards the close of her time. It is worth while to look at the monuments of the infant Princes, of Queen Elizabeth, and of Queen Mary, in another chapel in the Abbey, and examine those of some of our ancient Kings, Queens, &c., and it will be seen that the sculptor has in each instance, to the best of his ability, carved each personage as much like the original as possible. The Greeks and Romans did not dress their statues in the robes worn in other countries, and we did for upwards of a century. It is pleasant, however, to look at the statue of Wilberforce and some others and know that this ridiculous fashion has almost gone out of use.



ASYLUM FOR THE TEMPORARY RECEPTION OF INSANE SOLDIERS, AT FORT PITT, CHATHAM.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

SPRING DRESSES.—PATTERNS

GOODRICH'S SISAL CIGARS! at his
Tobacco, Snuff, and Cigar Stores, 407, Oxford-street, London,
near Soho-square. Box, containing 14, for 1s. 9d. Post-free, and
stamps extra. Pound Boxes, containing 109, 12s. 6d. None are
genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich."

LADIES NURSING.—NEW NIPPLE
SHIELDS, for taking away all pain in nursing, preventing,
and immediately curing, cracked or sore nipples.—BENJAMIN
ELAM, 126 Oxford-street. 4s. 6d.; by post 9d. extra.

BEFORE YOU HAVE YOUR LIKENESS
TAKEN send for DEWDNEY'S PATTERNS of BROOCHES,
Lockets, Israelites &c. which are sent free on receipt of two postage
stamps. Registered Revolving Brooches in Solid Gold, to show
either likeness or hair at pleasure of wearer, from 15s. each. A
Gold Plated Brooch or Locket sent free to any part of the kingdom
for 16s. 6d.—Dewdney, Manufacturing Goldsmith and Jeweller, 172,
Fenchurch-street, City, London.

CORNS and BUNIONS.—YOUNG'S
WHITE FELT, the best ever invented. Observe name and
address printed on the label, without which none are genuine. May
be had of most chemists in town and country. 1s. per box or 11
postage-stamps.—Address H. YOUNG, 1, Bassettbury-place, Allers-
gate-street, City.



CEREMONY OF PLACING THE GUARDS' CRIMEAN COLOURS IN THE CHAPEL OF THE WELLINGTON BARRACKS.—(SEE PAGE 263)



THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, CAPE TOWN.

DR. LIVINGSTON'S ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS. ROYAL OBSERVATORY, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Geographical Society of London, there was read the following—

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER ADDRESSED BY THOMAS MACLEAR, ESQ., H.M. ASTRONOMER AT THE CAPE, TO THE SECRETARY.

Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope,
November 3, 1856.

The object of this letter is to report progress in the reduction of the astronomical observations which that remarkable and excellent man, Dr. Livingston, made for geographical positions, on his track from Loanda across the continent to Quillimane. He has sent them to me for reduction, and I am anxious that they should be in Sir R. Murchison's hands, according to Livingston's request, with the least possible delay; or rather, I am anxious that they should meet him in England at the right time—the time when the society and the public at large will be doing him due honour for services without a parallel.

1. To expedite the reductions, I had skeleton forms printed for the computation of time from altitudes, for altitudes from time, and for Greenwich time from the lunar distances.

2. His observed lunar distances were compared (roughly) with tabular lunar distances, in order to detect errors of date as to the day of observation—a common source of error where civil clashes with astronomical reckoning.

3. The watch error was computed from each altitude, whether observed for watch error or for the calculation of parallax and refraction, to detect errors of entry or of transcribing; and while this was going on, another computer was following closely, calculating the parallaxes and altitudes for the times of lunar distance.

The total number of altitudes computed for time is 214, exclusive of repetitions or checks.

To this point the reductions were brought up on Saturday. To-day we commence the lunar distances, which will be computed by the rigorous trigonometrical process, viz., the final computation; for I find they must be repeated, as the assumed longitude sometimes is a degree in error; therefore at least two, but generally three, approximations will be needed.

Thus you will perceive that the only residual errors will be chargeable to the eccentricity or index errors of the sextant, and to the errors of the lunar tables; and, as Livingston unfortunately did not visit the Cape, I have had no chance or opportunity for examining the instrument.

I do hope that Livingston's merit will be acknowledged by the Crown in a substantial form. He is a poorer man than he was fourteen years back, when he landed in Africa. Without reference to higher motives, he has rendered services to science, and perhaps to commerce, such as few men have rendered. His constitution has been seriously injured by thirty-one attacks of fever. In fact, it would be difficult to find another whose claims on public gratitude are so strong.

Yours, dear Sir, truly, T. MACLEAR.

Dr. Shaw, Secretary of the Royal
Geographical Society.

THE CAPE OBSERVATORY.

THE scene of the reduction of our distinguished traveller's observations was founded in the year 1820; and the Rev. Fearon Fallows—remarkable for having made his way, at Cambridge, from an obscure origin to a highly honourable position, and remarkable alike for his practical scientific skill and for his mathematical acquirements—was appointed the first Astronomer.

Thus was realised a consummation long and devoutly desired by astronomers, not only of England, but of all Europe; for, however numerous observations may be in the northern hemisphere, they will be unable to complete many of the most important researches unless they are supplemented by similar observations on the southern side of the world's centre.

To this end many express, but temporary, astronomical expeditions were sent out, from time to time,

to the Cape or its neighbourhood; and of them, those of the Abbé La Caille, of Halley, and of Maskelyne, were the most important. Still, although these did much good, the advancing character of every branch of astronomy demanded better and more fre-

quent observations, and established the necessity for a fixed public observatory.

On arriving at Cape Town, Mr. Fallows found the great local mischief to be avoided when choosing the site of the observatory was sand—sharp, cutting, silicious sand—rendered up freely by the dry and heated soil to the everlasting winds and whirlwinds of the never-ending storm which blows so unceasingly, even with clear skies, at that windiest corner of the earth. With this object, he at last selected a station on a rising ground, four miles east of Cape Town, on the low tract of land which connects the mountainous peninsula of Cape Town and Table Mountain with the main continent. Here he fixed the observatory, on a foundation of green-stone, with a firm clayey upper soil, unvisited by either the red cloud of dust seen daily to come along the high road, on its way into Cape Town, on one hand, or on the other the great cloud of white sand flying along the plains of the flats, and destroying all the vegetation in its progress into Table Bay. The situation had, moreover, the advantages of an unlimited, almost a sea, horizon north and south; the eastern as clear, and the western only partially obstructed by mountains, and that not to the extent that would have been the case nearer to Cape Town or any of the adjacent villages.

Here, then, the Observatory was built, containing the best meridian instruments of the day in well-apportioned apartments, with accommodation for the astronomer and two assistants. And here poor Mr. Fallows laboured and died; here his successor, Mr. Henderson, made an immense number of observations, and deduced many important results; and here the present ardent astronomer, Mr. Maclear, has lived, and observed, and computed, and printed, for more than twenty years.

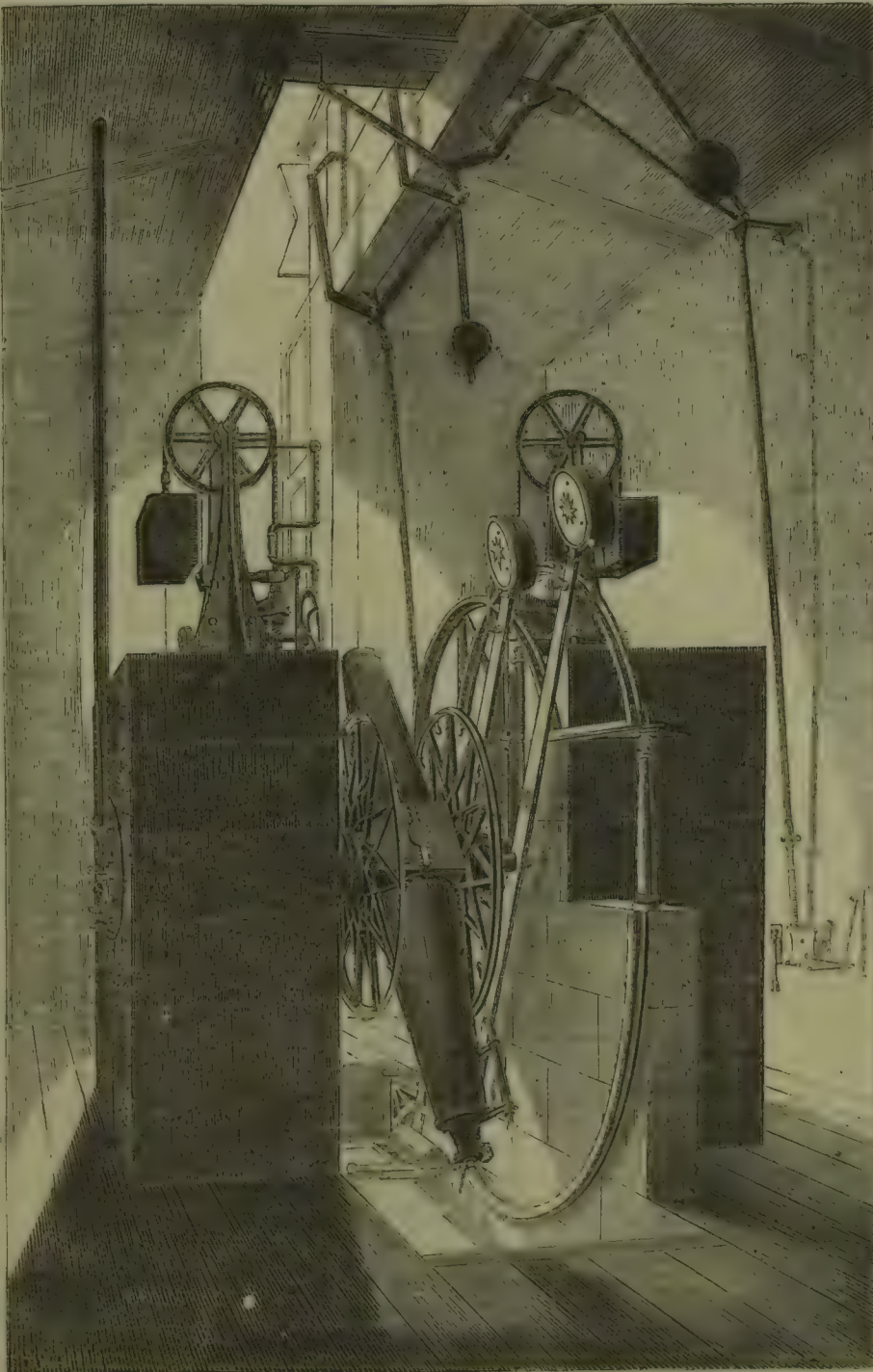
During this period many additions, alterations, and improvements, have been made from time to time, but none so important as that which we are about to describe; viz., the substitution of a new Airy's Transit Circle in place of the former Mural Circle with which all observations of declination have hitherto been made.

The Engraving shows the situation of the Observatory, with the Table Mountain in the distance, capped by the "table-cloth" cloud. In the foreground appears a pump with shifting sails, planned and erected by Professor P. Smyth during his residence at the Cape.

The Transit Instrument, which we engrave, was constructed from the designs of the Astronomer Royal, Professor Airy, and is in most respects similar to the large one in the Greenwich Observatory, also designed by Mr. Airy. The instrument is constructed principally of cast iron, in the smallest possible number of pieces. The pivots on which the instrument turns are cast with the cube forming the body of the instrument, and are extremely hard; whilst the rest of the body remains soft. This essential point was attained by the use of chilled cast iron, which was the only material by which such a combination of qualities could be secured. The circles are about six feet in diameter, and have each a graduated rim of silver dovetailed into the edges. By a very ingenious arrangement of microscopes in the stones which carry the bearings of the instrument, eight readings are taken of each observation, and may all be taken from one point, without the observer having to actually visit the different points of the circle. The instrument weighs nearly a ton, but is so accurately balanced that it is under perfect control, and may be easily moved by one finger. A very beautiful system of parallel motion carries a trough full of mercury for taking observations by reflection. This trough being filled from the bottom of a bottle, the surface of the mercury is always clear.

The optical parts of this and the Greenwich instrument were made by Troughton and Simms, of London; and the engineering work by Ransomes and Sims, of Ipswich.

England now can boast of having the two finest transit instruments in the world—one in the southern, and one in the northern, hemisphere.



TRANSIT INSTRUMENT AT THE CAPE OBSERVATORY.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE CONSERVATIVE MANIFESTO.

Earl GRANVILLE moved the second reading of the Income-tax Bill. The Earl of DERBY said it was not his intention to oppose the bill, however much he regretted that it had not been thought more discreet to postpone a measure of such importance to the consideration of a new Parliament. The earliest work of such an assembly must be a general consideration of the finances and the taxation of the kingdom. He regarded the finance of the country with deep anxiety. The abolition of the Income-tax had been the cardinal point of the policy of every Government. It never was considered otherwise than as a war tax—the creature of a dead necessity—to be kept only for that purpose, and struck off the list when its exigency had been accomplished. This was the pledge of 1853, and its fulfilment he looked forward to in 1860. To carry out this it had been understood that the 7d. was last year to have been reduced to 5d., as a step towards its total extinction in 1860. The war that had supervened increased the tax to 16d.; but, on the peace, it should have fallen at once to 5d. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, had kept it to 7d., by taking advantage of a mistake in the Act of Parliament definition of time, and now looked forward for the extra 2d. to a surplus of £500,000. But the Persian war, the Chinese war, with the many calamities that lowered around it, have not been calculated at more than £250,000; and it is upon this assumption that the expectation of a surplus of £500,000 is based. Yet how could this accrue? By half a year's war income of 9d. in the £1, amounting to £4,500,000? This will have failed in 1858, and with another million from the change from 7d. to 5d. the deficit will be £5,500,000 between 1857 and 1858. Would 1860 then relieve them from the Income-tax? Our expenditure must be balanced with our income—whether by increased productivity of existing taxes from the elasticity of trade, or by the imposition of new taxes, or by economy. He feared they must adopt all three. He thought highly of the first: the public looked with aversion on the second, new taxes in time of peace; to the third they must especially attend. In the first place, as regards expenditure, the interest of the National Debt must be paid; in the second, as regards civil expenditure, but little has been left for the pruning-knife in that department; what was left for saving must be made in the army, the navy, and the miscellaneous estimates. The army and navy establishments should be kept efficient; organically strong and numerically low. Everything should be ready that required preparation. The miscellaneous estimates had, of late years, thanks to the extravagance of the House of Commons, increased to a very large amount. So far from the House of Commons checking the Government expenditure, it was the Government that had to check the House of Commons. However, the main secret of expense, whether miscellaneous or naval and military, was the foreign policy of the Government. If that were aggressive, then it must necessarily be expensive. They must be ready at a fortnight's notice to fight with any one. But if this be not all—if their Government at any moment, without the advice and approval of the Houses of Parliament, assume the right of making war—then they must be ready to fight with every nation in the world. He would not reopen the Chinese question, though he would observe, that for Parliament, at its busiest season, in the month of March, when trade was settling its operations for the year, to be dissolved for expressing an opinion on that war, was something lamentable. They might say it was owing to the vote of Parliament. But what caused that vote? Where was the undue impatience of Parliament? War had been declared, carried out, and concluded, so far as Persia was concerned, yet not a fact or a paper had been submitted to either House. Papers at last were moved for on the Chinese war. It was not thought that the facts, disclosed by these papers justified either the war or the proceedings connected with it. A motion was made on the subject. What followed? Government assumed the whole responsibility on itself. The conduct and the judgment of Sir John Bowring were accepted by Lord Palmerston as his own. They made themselves parties to the motion of censure—nay, more, they claimed for the servants of the Crown a complete exoneration under penalty of a dissolution of the House. What was this but a reward held out to hasty conduct and intemperate judgment on the part of future Crown officials? But, after the Government had pronounced that Sir John Bowring had done well and wisely, they proceeded at once to take the power out of the hands of that good and faithful servant. They doubted his discretion in difficulty, but when the House of Commons showed a similar distrust they charged them with factious opposition, with coalition, with combination, with conspiracy—and punished them by a dissolution. Would any member of her Majesty's Government venture to repeat these charges in that House? The claspnet of that clamour was well understood. It was to "go to the country upon." "For myself," said the noble Lord, "as a Peer and a gentleman, I give my word of honour that I know of no such combination—I have been no party to any such combination; no, nor have I known of any concert, nor coalition, nor agreement, nor understanding in regard to that vote. It was the spontaneous declaration of a conscientious opinion." If the House of Commons were guilty of that charge, surely their Lordships were partakers in the crime. His own motion to the same purport had met with similar support from usually dissident quarters. Earl Fitzwilliam, one of the old Whig school, had stood by his side, and he had shown him the resolution he intended to move, in which the noble Earl had suggested a verbal alteration—that was the combination in the House of Lords. In the Commons a friend had told him of his intention to bring forward a motion on China, and he had suggested a reference to the Leader of the Opposition; but in the interim Mr. Cobden brought forward his motion. That was the combination in the Commons. He could understand two parties combining for a political object, but how could five parties combine? The cry was no new one from a Government in difficulties. When a party opposed it was called a party movement; but when the case against Government was so strong that its usual supporters could no longer side with it, then came the outcry of "disgraceful coalition." Let them look at the addresses throughout the country, which, while they deplored Sir J. Bowring's conduct, rallied at the "infamous coalition." After characterising the assertion as gross and base, the noble Earl said he would ask how long was it that the present Government had felt such an honest horror of coalitions? He would not touch the early history of the noble Viscount, nor even go so far back as the beginning of the present Parliament, but would look to the commencement only of the present Session. There was Mr. Locke King's motion. The Government had 34 votes—21 of them Government subordinates—to 170 of their own party against them. The Conservatives, true to their principles, rescued the noble Lord from being torn to pieces by his own friends. Did the noble Lord denounce that as a coalition, or repudiate that division? Away, then, with the charge of faction! The Chinese question was not the one set forth for the country's judgment. Plainly, the appeal of Lord Palmerston was this—"Have I your confidence, or not?" That was the question. The noble Lord himself was all—the rest were his appendages. Great credit had been taken for the Government as to their ecclesiastical appointments. He knew not how reverend gentlemen, who had been hard-working men and well earned their dignities, would relish being made electioneering capital. With the Tractarian party he had no sympathy. They were destructive to the Church, and had caused a dangerous reaction. They had assumed intolerable power, and had made much of mere forms, to the great distress and jealousy of the conscientious. As a Protestant he regarded that party to be religiously and politically corrupt; and he deeply regretted that the Government had lent to their doctrines, and had given all power to their pretensions. He now reverted to the question, "Has Lord Palmerston the confidence of the country?" He could not forget 1843 and 1850 in regard to the foreign policy of the noble Viscount; nor close his eyes to the continuance of that mischievous interference as the mainspring of the Palmerstonian policy. He admired the noble Viscount's spirit in taking office in 1855, but he doubted whether the war had been properly concluded, for by the Treaty of Paris the maritime supremacy of this country had been sacrificed. Of Naples what could be said? What had been accomplished? What was the result of their interference? Papers they had without end, but what object had been attained? We asked the King of Naples to grant an amnesty. What should we have thought of the nation that had demanded of us some years ago an amnesty for Mr. Smith O'Brien? But if such was Lord Palmerston's foreign policy, what could be said of his home policy? He was the one man of Shakespeare, playing many parts—the chameleon of politics. Had their Lordships seen the placards that heralded the advent of his re-election? "Palmerston and the Church!" "Palmerston, and down with Maynooth!" "Palmerston, and the Man of God!" No one had ever heard of "Palmerston and Peace!" "Palmerston and Retrenchment!" "Palmerston and Reform!" Reform, perhaps, the noble Lord might think had gone far enough; but there were no possible limits to the principles of peace and retrenchment. How would Lord Palmerston answer the Liberal catechism on these points?—The Ballot—Locke King's motion—the Bank Charter—Church Rates—Abolition of Purchase in the Army—and a graduated Income-tax? There was not a question there that Lord Palmerston's Government would not oppose. But it might be said he (Lord Derby), as a Conservative, ought to support the noble Viscount. So he would, but he could not depend on Lord Palmerston's firmness on any principle. There was the Tea-duty—first, it was to be increased—that was absolutely essential; then that increase was given up. Next there was the case of Sir J. McNeill and Col. Tulloch. Pensions at first refused were afterwards granted to the pressure of the House of Commons, who thus, in violation of the constitution, became in fact the fountain of power to the servants of the Crown. Was this the noble Viscount's care of the prerogative? Had the noble Lord thought it wise to have gone to a division, and met with a defeat, they would have heard, perhaps, a second time of faction, combination, and coalition. Were he asked what should be done by his friends, his advice would be to do only what was best, to abide by what they thought most true, and to act only on conviction of what would be most advantageous to his country. The noble Viscount had their co-operation without rivalry or jealousy. The improvement and simplification of the law, the reformation of criminals, the promotion of religion—all measures tending to these ends were essentially Conservative

measures, and as such were supported by all Conservatives. On their carrying this out Lord Palmerston would receive all possible Conservative aid. But they only asked him to refrain from encroachments, and would stay him in his downward career. He looked to see the Conservatives a strong and united party once more, as the Government of the country required that they should be. The union must be one of feeling and sympathy. It would be base to attempt such a union without. His principles as a Conservative were the preservation of the prerogatives of the Crown—the independence and hereditary character of their Lordships' House—the rights of the people—and the Established Church. He thought this exposition of his views due to the country, though he had no constituency to appeal to for his re-election; but he felt his responsibility none the less. He might expose himself to misrepresentation by so doing, but, nevertheless, it never should be said that he shrank from the open and frank exposition of his principles for the purpose of obtaining political advantage, or had ever betrayed the trust reposed in him by the confidence of his friends.

Earl GRANVILLE said: My Lords, the noble Lord who has just sat down stated on two occasions last week his intention to call your Lordships' attention to the state of the country, and the reasons for the coming appeal to the country. The course of the noble Earl was a natural and a legitimate one, considering the accounts he was no doubt receiving from the country; and considering, too, the addresses put forward by his own supporters. It was using most advantageously the position which the noble Earl held in the House to endeavour to make such a statement as might influence the coming elections, and give some degree of confidence to his supporters. The noble Earl has now made his statement—made with every advantage which his great natural ability and consummate art of speaking commanded—and with the great advantage, too, of being able to combine every topic and weigh every word and phrase which would produce the greatest effect throughout the country. With regard to one point of the noble Earl's speech—that which contained a personal illustration of those members of the Government which included myself and my colleagues, whom the noble Earl thought were mere ciphers—I may observe that I do not feel any irritation upon the point; for, though he told us we were only appendages to my noble friend at the head of the Government, the noble Earl himself, during his short tenure of office, would have been glad to have retained the assistance of my noble friend below me (Hear, hear). I do not wish to go into these personal questions in which the noble Earl joked us with being appendages to my noble friend.

The Earl of DERBY was understood to deny that he had done so.

Earl GRANVILLE (continued): The greater part of the noble Earl's speech was of an apologetic and defensive tone; and, no doubt, it was the result of the reports he had received from the country. The noble Earl felt himself to be on the losing side, while I believe myself to be on the winning side, and, therefore, I claim no magnanimity whatever in abstaining from referring to party feelings and motives. The noble Earl has alluded, very naturally, to the financial system of the Government, and he referred to the determination of the Government to deal with the Income-tax now, instead of leaving it to the new House of Commons to deal with the subject. I will not say what the country would have thought if the Government had found some excuse for not dealing with the war 9d. Income-tax, but had left the people to pay the war tax for three months, if not for six months, longer (Hear, hear). With regard to the Succession-duty the noble Earl should refresh his mind upon the subject, and he would find that it was imposed in order to relieve the people of the Income-tax in 1860. So that in this case, too, my Lords, you may perceive the noble Earl does not confidently expect the expiration of the Income-tax (Hear, hear). The noble Earl next devoted a great part of his speech to several topics connected with our home policy, and, at the eloquent conclusion of that speech, stated that we were going to the country without any intelligible principle. Now, I must ask your Lordships, is there any peculiar justice in the noble Earl bringing that charge against us, especially when we are well aware that there are among his own supporters some who are not fully confident of the principles which really actuate him? But, my Lords, it may be said that an Opposition is not bound, as a Government is, to declare its principles; but the noble Earl was once himself at the head of her Majesty's Government.

The Earl of DERBY: How long?

Earl GRANVILLE: For a short time, no doubt; but, in order that that very short time might be prolonged, that Government delayed the dissolution of Parliament, although it was constantly pressed to adopt a more speedy course (Hear, hear). The noble Earl said that Parliament is now about to be dissolved when there is no great principle to be contended for, and when the public mind is not agitated by any question of very great importance; but at the moment when he was importuned to dissolve Parliament the country was agitated by a most important question in which their interests were deeply concerned, and in the settlement of which one great political party was bound up. The noble Earl, nevertheless, sat calmly upon the Treasury bench, surrounded by his "appendages," and took every opportunity of showing the greatest temper and patience, and he exhibited marvellous dexterity in fencing from night to night the questions which we put, and which we thought we had a right to put to him, as to whether he was going to the country for Protection or for Free-trade (Cheers). I really think the noble Earl is not exactly the person to bring the accusation against her Majesty's present Government of not having any defined principles. He alluded to the question of reform, and twitted her Majesty's Government with having been found in the lobby with the supporters of Mr. Locke King's motion. I admit that that was an unfortunate contingency (Laughter), but I may be permitted to say a word in explanation with regard to that motion. After due deliberation on the part of the Government as to the principles of Mr. Locke King's Bill, it was agreed that it should be supported, in order that when it went into Committee such modifications might be introduced as would prudently, judiciously, and most usefully extend the county suffrage. It was only subsequently to that decision, and when it was found that the bill was not draughted in such a shape as to permit the introduction of any such amendments, that it was finally decided, that it would only be wasting the time of the House to attempt to pass a bill which her Majesty's Government could not approve. But, my Lords, if the noble Lord wishes to put us in the same boat with him respecting electoral reform, if he imagines that we think with him that our electoral system is perfectly unsatisfactory of either renovation or improvement, I tell him that such is not our opinion (Hear). With regard to that and other questions her Majesty's Government pledge themselves to progressive improvement.

Earl GRANVILLE then proceeded to explain the course pursued by the Government with regard to Sir John McNeill and Col. Tulloch, and adverted to the skill with which Lord Derby had avoided noticing the many favourable aspects which the foreign relations of this country now presented, and how close and intimate was the understanding which existed with the Emperor of the French, with Austria, and other great Powers of Europe. For the same reasons Lord Derby had but little dwelt upon the Persian war, which had so signally maintained the honour and interests of this country. Referring to the vote on the Chinese question, Lord GRANVILLE expressed his belief in the solemn pledge given by Lord Derby; but, at the same time, went at some length into the question of the statements made by the Press newspaper with reference to a combination between Mr. Gladstone and the Conservative party, with a view to account for the generally-expressed opinion as to a combination of parties having attempted to drive Government from office. He vindicated the Episcopal Bench from the charge of latitudinarianism, which had been hinted against some members of it, and regretted that Lord Derby should have made an almost personal attack upon Lord Palmerston. The best answer he could make to that attack was to refer for a moment to Lord Derby's anxiety to secure the official services of Lord Palmerston when he was seeking to form an Administration in 1855. With regard to their having no policy on which to appeal to the country, he thought the question of whether the electors were willing to support the present Government was sufficient, and he believed that its result would be triumphant to Lord Palmerston's Administration.

The Earl of MALMESBURY briefly recapitulated some of the arguments used by Lord Derby, and added his denial to what had been already stated with regard to an asserted coalition or combination of parties to bring about the adverse vote in the House of Commons.

The Earl of HARDWICKE also expressed his deep indignation at the general tone in which Lord Derby's explanation had been noticed by Lord GRANVILLE. It was, he thought, neither courteous, nor even honourable, so to act in the face of Lord Derby's solemn denial of any coalition with any party.

Earl GRANVILLE briefly explained, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

TELEGRAPH TO INDIA.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated, in answer to Sir Denham Norreys, that a company had been formed to lay down a telegraph communication between this country and India by way of Selucia, down the valley of the Euphrates and the Persian Gulf. A guarantee will be given to the shareholders of the company by the Government and the East India Company conjointly.

NABAB OF SURAT.—Some conversation occurred on a motion by Sir E. PERRY respecting the property of the Nabab of Surat, which had been settled in a certain way by the Bombay Government, of which the Nabab complains, but which the Judicial Committee of Council refuses to entertain, as it is an appeal, not from a court of justice, but from the Executive Government.—Sir F. KELLY and Mr. M. CHAMBERS supported the motion of Sir Erskine Perry.—Mr. V. SMITH said the case was under discussion last Session. He had no objection to produce the papers in the case, but he could not agree to disturb the settlement.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE EXPEDITION TO PERSIA AND CHINA.

The Marquis of CLANICARDE rose to ask what would be the pay and allowances of the officers and soldiers about to be sent to China, and whether the Secretary for War would lay on the table an estimate or return showing the comparative cost of the British expedition in the Persian Gulf and on the coast of China? He understood that the troops in China were not to receive as high allowances as those in Persia. He

did not know for what reason there was this distinction. All British troops sent to serve in any Asiatic country ought to receive as good pay and allowances as those sent to India. Yet he had heard that troops sent to Persia had higher allowances because they went from India, while the troops sent to China went from this country.

Lord PANMURE, in reply, said that every arrangement had been made that was calculated to conduce to the comfort and health of the troops.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH suggested that if the Government would dispatch one European and two native regiments, which could now be spared from Bussiere, those troops might reach Hong-Kong in about two months' time, whereas troops sent from this country could not arrive before three months and a half had elapsed. The adoption of his suggestion would effect a saving of full six weeks.

Lord PANMURE thanked the noble Earl for his suggestion, which should have his best consideration.

Earl GREY: I hope that we are not going to embark on that most dangerous and fatal course, the invasion of China (Hear). I hope that the Government have some definite object before them; for, as far as Parliament are yet informed, no such object appears (Hear, hear). After all, my Lords (continued the noble Lord), what do we want in China? Our interest is simply to carry on our trade. If we are to embark in war, every blow we inflict on China will recoil on ourselves. We cannot destroy property in China—we cannot burn towns and warehouses—without rendering them worse customers to us, and preventing them from supplying us with those necessities which we want (Hear, hear).

Earl GRANVILLE said that, in the noble Earl's earnest desire for peace, he overlooked one obvious means of arriving at that consummation—the backing-up the negotiations of our Plenipotentiary by a considerable amount of force. It was impossible to enter into the nature of the instructions given to our Plenipotentiary; but surely it must be very clear that his negotiations would be materially aided if he were accompanied by a very considerable military force ("Hear," and a laugh).

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

SIR J. McNEILL and COLONEL TULLOCH.—Viscount CASTLEROSSE, Comptroller of her Majesty's Household, brought up the following message from the Crown:—"I have received your address praying that some special mark of approbation might be conferred upon Sir John McNeill and Colonel Tulloch, in consideration of their able services as commissioners in the Crimea; and, having taken the same into consideration, I have given directions for that purpose."

AFFAIRS OF NAPLES.

Mr. DISRAELI: I will take this opportunity of making an inquiry of the noble Lord with reference to some papers which were laid on the table of the House early in the Session. The papers I refer to were those connected with our communications with the Court of the Two Sicilies. They were of a very meagre character, and an hon. gentleman inquired of the noble Lord whether they contained all the correspondence that had taken place between her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Two Sicilies on the question at issue between them; and the noble Lord replied that they did not contain the whole, but that the other correspondence referred to propositions that had terminated in no result, and, therefore, that it was not necessary to place it on the table. Now, I find, from the foreign journals, that foreigners and people out of doors are more favoured than the House of Commons, for the correspondence omitted or suppressed by the Government appears to be in their possession. And with respect to one allegation contained in that part of the correspondence I wish to address a question to the noble Lord. It is stated that her Majesty's Government made an offer to a foreign Power to undertake that, in case of any attempt to establish Republican institutions in the South of Italy, they would prevent it—if necessary, by force of arms. I wish to know if there is any authority for that statement, and if it be true that a communication of that character and in that spirit was made to a foreign Power by her Majesty's Government? I hope the noble Lord will give a frank and explicit answer to this inquiry.

Viscount PALMERSTON: The statement which I made on a former occasion was not precisely that which the right hon. gentleman represents it to have been. What I stated was, that the papers laid on the table of the House contained everything that bore on the course of policy which her Majesty's Government had adopted; that there had been some instructions given to our agents at Naples, to direct them in the course they were to pursue under contingencies that had not happened; and therefore, as those contingencies had not happened, those instructions fell to the ground, and those communications were not included. Those were not communications to the Neapolitan Government, but to our agents at Naples. I rather think they were on matters totally unimportant, and which had no reference to the matters at issue. If I understand the right hon. gentleman, he wishes to know whether the British Government made any suggestion to any foreign Government that if there was an attempt made to establish Republican institutions in Italy, this Government would oppose by force of arms such a movement. Am I correct in understanding that?

Mr. DISRAELI: I wish to know from the noble Lord whether in the course of the communications which took place in reference to the affairs of Sicily, her Majesty's Government had made an offer to a foreign Power that if any attempt were made to establish Republican institutions in Southern Italy, they would be prepared to interfere—if necessary by force of arms—to prevent it.

Viscount PALMERSTON: No such offer was made by her Majesty's Government (Hear, hear).

Mr. HENLEY said the answer given by the noble Lord to Mr. Disraeli's question had left on his mind the impression that the communications made to some British agents did contain the offer referred to. If this were not so, the noble Lord would be glad of the opportunity of correcting that impression.

Viscount PALMERSTON: I am much obliged to the hon. gentleman, if that impression was made, for giving me the opportunity of removing it. No. The instructions sent to the British agents were as to the conduct they should pursue in the event of certain overtures being made to them by the Neapolitan Government, which overtures never were made; and those instructions had no relation whatever to the contingency of Republican institutions being established. They merely said, "If the Neapolitan Government should offer to do so-and-so, you are to act so-and-so;" but no such offer having been made, the contingency to which the instructions applied did not arise. It had nothing to do with the establishment of Republican institutions. I am quite sure that the hon. gentleman will feel that the British Government never would think of resorting to force of arms for the purpose of suppressing Republican institutions in Italy (Hear, hear). That is a condition of things in which we should not think ourselves at all entitled to interfere at the point of the bayonet (Hear, hear).

Mr. DISRAELI: Am I to understand from the noble Lord that no communication took place between her Majesty's Government and a foreign Power in which the contingency of Republican institutions being established in Italy was contemplated, and the course which her Majesty's Government, under that contingency, was prepared to take, was declared?

Viscount PALMERSTON: That is quite a different question (Hear, hear). The right hon. gentleman asked me whether any offer was made by the British Government to co-operate with any foreign Power.

Mr. DISRAELI: Not to co-operate. Whether an offer was made to a foreign Power?

Viscount PALMERSTON: Well, an offer to a foreign Power must have been an offer to do something. The right hon. gentleman asked if an offer was made to a foreign Power that we would, by force of arms, if necessary, prevent the establishment of Republican institutions. I said that no such offer had been made (Hear).

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes before six.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—WEDNESDAY.

Their Lordships met for the dispatch of business shortly after twelve o'clock, the Chairman of Committees (Lord Redesdale), as Deputy-Speaker, presiding. The Customs Duties Bill, Racehorse Duty Act Amendment Bill, Cinque Ports Act Amendment Bill, and Pauper Maintenance Bill, severally passed through Committee, and the reports upon them were received. The following were read a third time and passed, viz.:—Income-tax Bill, Indemnity Bill; Copyhold and Inclosure Commissions, &c., Bill; Extra-Parochial Places Bill (as amended), and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at twelve o'clock. Mr. Clarke took the oaths and his seat for Londonderry in the room Mr. Bateson, resigned.

Mr. Speaker's Retirement Bill was read a third time and passed. The SPEAKER having expressed his thanks for the noble and generous manner in which his services had been received, it was resolved that what Mr. Speaker had said be entered upon the records of the House.

The Exchequer Bills (£21,049,700) Bill, the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, the Mutiny Bill, and the Marine Mutiny Bill, were each read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.—Sir B. HALL obtained leave to bring in a bill to extend the time for enabling the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works to complete improvements in Pimlico and in the neighbourhood of Buckingham Palace. The bill was brought in and read a first time.

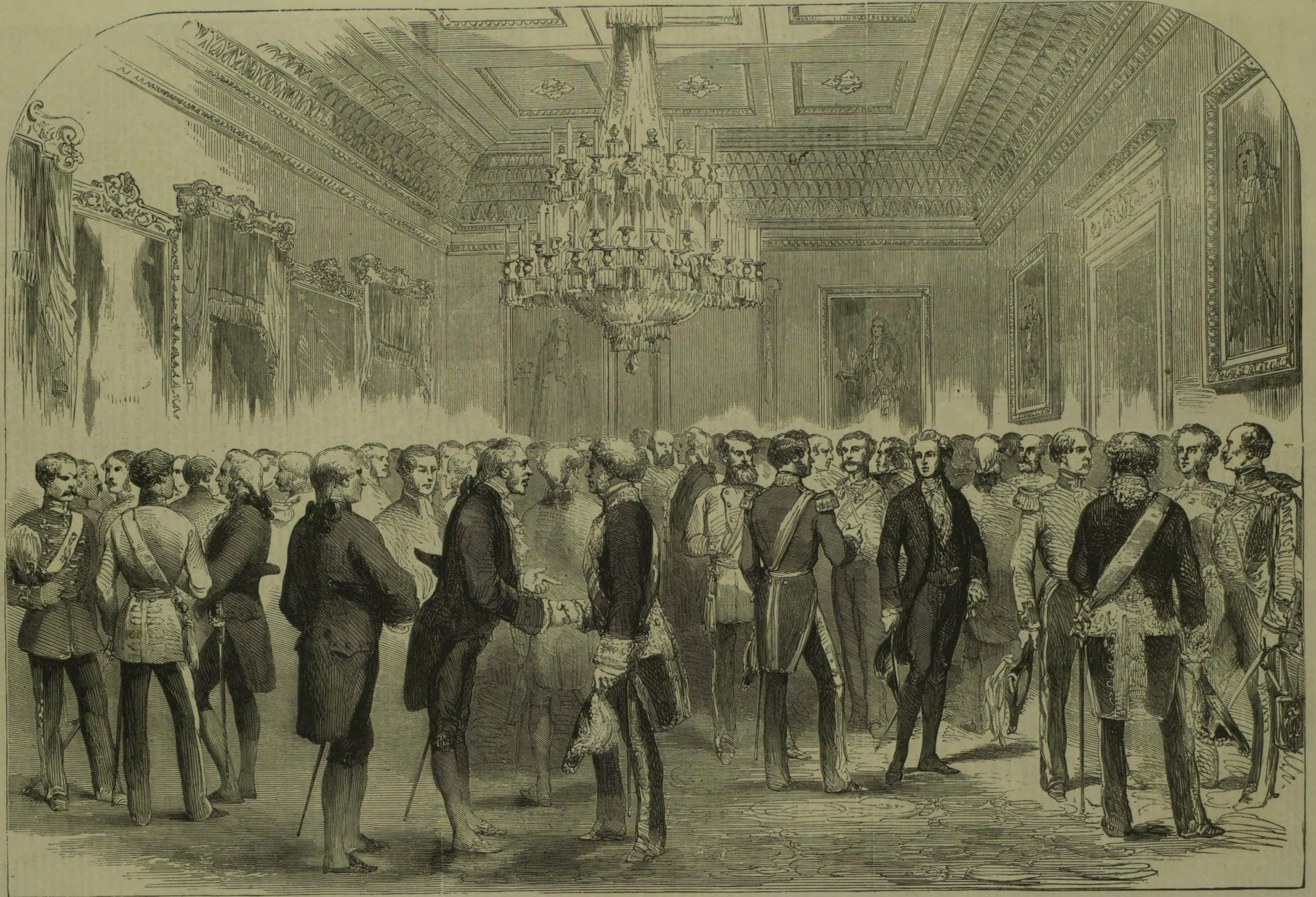
PUBLIC OFFICES EXTENSION.—Sir B. HALL obtained leave to bring in a bill to make further provision for enabling the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works to acquire a site for additional offices for the public service near Whitehall and her Majesty's Palace at Westminster. The bill was brought in and read a first time.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA.—In answer to Sir D. Norreys, Mr. WILSON said that the only line of telegraphic communication with India which the Government were prepared to entertain was that by Selucia and Korna, at the head of the Persian Gulf. Government had been in communication with the company, who were to have two years to consider whether they could carry out their plans; until that time elapsed, of course they could consider no other plan. The House then, at half-past two, adjourned until Saturday.

The Swiss journals announce the death at Vevay, a few days ago, of M. Jenish, formerly a banker at Hamburg, and for thirty years first Senator of that city. He was seventy-three years of age, and leaves landed and personal property (the former situated chiefly in Denmark) to the value of 12,000,000 marks banco (£920,000).



THE CHOIR OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY, CARLISLE, RESTORED.—(SEE PAGE 276.)



THE SPEAKER'S PARLIAMENTARY LEVEE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE SPEAKER'S DINNER AND LEVEE.

The Right Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons gave his last Parliamentary full-dress dinner on Saturday evening, the 14th of March, at his mansion in Eaton-square. The following members were present:—The Right Hon. Lord Alexander Lennox, the Right Hon. Viscount Barrington, the Right Hon. Lord Ossulston, the Right Hon. Lord Henry Cholmondeley, Sir Charles Coote, Sir Archibald Campbell, Sir John Carnac, Admiral Sir George Tyler, Sir Samuel Bignold, Admiral Walcott, Captain Jolliffe, Mr. Miles, Mr. Compton, Colonel Boldero, Mr. Portal, Mr. George Dundas, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Moody, Mr. George Butt, Q.C., Mr. Gathorne Hardy, Mr. Peacocke, Mr. Christy, Mr. Edward Ball, Mr. Baldock, Mr. Grogan, the Rev. Thomas Garnier, and the Hon. George Waldegrave.

The right hon. gentleman afterwards held his farewell levee, which was attended by nearly every member now in London, some hon. members having come back from their constituencies on purpose to pay this last tribute of respect to the right hon. gentleman. The following were present:—His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Abingdon, Colonel Adair, Mr. Alcock, Sir Andrew Agnew, Lord Broughton, Mr. Bagge, Mr. C. Bailey, Mr. Baldock, Mr. Edward Ball, Mr. T. Baring, Mr. Barnes, Viscount Barrington, Mr. Beaumont, Mr. Bennet, Sir Samuel Bignold, Colonel Boldero, Mr. Bonham-Carter, Mr. Bowyer, Right Hon. E. Bouverie, Mr. Bramley, the Hon. Henry Brand, Mr. Butler, Mr. George Butt, the Hon. George Byng, Lord Calthorpe, Sir George Clark, Sir Archibald Campbell, Sir John Carnac, Lord Robert Cecil, Viscount Chelsea, Lord Henry Cholmondeley, Mr. Christy, Lord Robert Clinton, Mr. Clive, Mr. Cobbold, Sir William Codrington, General Codrington, Mr. Compton, Sir Charles Coote, Mr. Currie, the Right Hon. Henry Curry, Lord Burghers, Mr. D. Davies, Mr. Deedes, Mr. De Vere, the Hon. Henry Duncombe, Col. H. Duncombe, the Hon. William Duncombe, Mr. George Dundas, Mr. Frederick Dundas, Mr. Du Pre, Viscount Somerset, Sir Philip Egerton, Viscount Elmley, Mr. Estcourt, Mr. W. Ewart, Mr. J. Ewart, General Fox, Mr. Fagan, Mr. Farrer, Mr. Fenwick, Mr. Franklin, Sir John Fitzgerald, Right Hon. Colonel Forster, Colonel Gilpin, Right Hon. William Gladstone, Mr. Glyn, Viscount Goderich, Mr. Greenall, Mr. Thomas Greene, Mr. Gregson, Mr. Grenfell, Mr. Grogan, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Earl Grosvenor, Mr. Gurney, Mr. Gwyn, General Hall, Mr. Hardy, Sir W. Heathcote, Mr. Hindley, Hon. G. Heathcote, Mr. Henry Herbert, Lord Hotham, Lord Edward Howard, Mr. Hume, Mr. Hutchins, Mr. Hutt, Mr. Ingram, Earl Jernyn, Mr. Jolliffe, Admiral Jones, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Mr. David Ker, Mr. Richard Ker, Colonel Knox, Hon. P. Locke King, Mr. W. Gore Langton, Mr. Layard, Lord A. Lennox, Lord H. Lennox, Mr. Locke, Mr. Malins, Sir George E. Bulwer Lytton, Lord John Manners, Earl of March, Mr. Dudley Marjoribanks, Mr. C. Martin, Mr. Miles, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Right Hon. William Monsell, Mr. Moody, Sir George Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Mundy, Sir Denis Le Marchant, Mr. Mowatt, Sir Denham Norreys, Mr. North, Mr. O'Brien, Lord Ossulston, Mr. Packe, Mr. Robert Palmer, Mr. Roundell Palmer, Colonel Patten, Mr. Peacocke, Sir George Pechell, Mr. Frederick Peel, General Peel, Sir Erskine Perry, Mr. Portal, Mr. Pritchard, the Rev. G. Repton, Lord C. Russell, Viscount Raynham, Mr. Rebow, Mr. Rice, Mr. Rich, Mr. Ridley, Lord John Russell, Viscount Sandon, Mr. Scholefield, Mr. Henry Seymour, Mr. Shatto, Mr. Sheridan, Major Sibthorp, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. Abel Smith, Colonel Somerset, Mr. Starkie, the Marquis of Stafford, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Thornhill, Mr. Tollemache, Sir George Tyler, Sir John Tyrell, Mr. Vance, Lord Harry Vane, the Right Hon. C. Villiers, Mr. H. Waddington, Admiral Walcott, Sir John Walsh, Mr. Warner, Colonel Watkins, Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Wickham, Sir William Fenwick Williams, Sir Henry Willoughby, Mr. Charles Grenfell, Vice-Chancellor Sir William Page Wood, Mr. Antonio Panizzi, the Rev. Thomas Garnier, and the Hon. G. Waldegrave.

THE CHOIR OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY, CARLISLE.

The View which we present to our readers of Carlisle Cathedral, is the choir looking east. The dilapidated state of this ancient fabric had long called for some renovation and repair. Accordingly, in the autumn of 1852 Mr. Christian, architect of Whitehall-place, was called upon to furnish a report of the then state of the edifice. Before enumerating the various points which have been attended to during the repairs, it will be as well to say a few words as to the building itself. As it at present stands the Cathedral is not complete, a large portion of the nave being wanting—the fragment which remains of it and its aisles is partitioned off, and used as a parish church. The most ancient portions of the Cathedral itself are those parts erected in the eleventh and twelfth centuries—viz., the nave, south transept, and lower part of the tower. They are in the bold Norman style, as is also part of the north transept, erected about the same period. There is a clerestory to the nave and south transept; but the original roof does not remain. The walls on the north and south sides of the choir aisles are Early English.

The pillars of the choir and the whole of the east end to the springing of the great window are of the period of Edward II. The arches are Early English; the old materials of these as well as the groining of the side aisles having been used in their construction.

The great east window seen in our View is of the date of the middle of the fourteenth century, as well as the clerestory on both sides, and is one of the finest in the kingdom. Returning to the renovations, we should observe that great care has been taken in every part to render it as complete as possible: new stones have been inserted where the old had perished. The elegant semicircular oak ceiling, which had from 1764 been hidden from view by an ugly ribbed and plaster one, has been brought to light, and appears in its pristine glory, being now richly decorated in gold and colour. The great east window has been entirely reconstructed—the dilapidations having been so great as to call for complete repair; the old stained glass in the tracery lights has been restored; numerous other windows have also undergone restoration; the parapets and walls, the centre tower, and the roofs

of every portion have been completely restored; and the entire fabric is now a magnificent specimen of ecclesiastical Gothic architecture. We should not omit to mention the beautiful new doorway in the south transept, which has been placed where there originally was a Norman one. It is to be hoped the lower lights of the great east window will be filled with stained glass, in memory of the late Bishop of the diocese. It is gratifying to learn that the estimate of the cost of alteration has not been exceeded: this sum was about £15,000. The time occupied in the restoration was about three years, under the able direction of Mr. Christian and Mr. C. H. Purday, his clerk of the works.

The organ is quite new—made by Willis, of London, at a cost of £1100—and is placed on the rood screen.

FINE ARTS.

THE PEACE CONFERENCES IN PARIS. Painted by EDWARD DUBUFE.

The transactions closed by the Paris Peace of 1856 were unquestionably the most important of any that have taken place since 1815. That the Conferences virtually terminated by the signature of the Treaty of Peace should form the subject of a picture of portraits was, therefore, not only a public want, but in accordance with the well-known precedents of the Treaties of Westphalia and Vienna, the representations of which must be in the memory of many of our readers. The result is a picture (now the property of the Emperor of the French) which fully gratifies the curiosity, not only with regard to the locality of the Conferences, but the personages who sat in council.

This is by no means a feat easy of accomplishment by the generality of artists. The portraits of prominent living men must be successful. A vague likeness subordinate to the general effect of a picture representing dead personages will not do in the case of men with every peculiarity of the expression of whose countenances thousands are familiar. Then the action must be easy and natural, with neither over-expressed figures historically arranged for a tableau, nor automata who do not know what to do with their arms. Few, very few, groups of portraits make a good picture, comprising the rigid accuracy we have first demanded, and then the naturalness of style which marks the artist who may be called a master.

We have been much pleased by this picture of M. Dubufe. The likenesses, as far as we know them, are of the most striking resemblance—Count Manteuffel is perhaps somewhat too young, but perfect as regards expression; Lord Clarendon is perhaps the most aristocratic-looking of the group; and Count Orloff has the strongest tinge of military tournure. Count Buol's intellectual countenance, with its undercurrent of quiet, strong will, is quite successful. Count Walewski and M. Benedetti, the Secretary of the Conference, are also striking likenesses. We have not the advantage of being able to speak as to that of Ali Pacha, the Turkish Plenipotentiary, not having seen that personage; but his figure is well painted, in spite of the Europeanised costume capped by the fez, which most unpicturesque portion of the Oriental dress has unfortunately been retained in the new habiliments of the Ottomans. Count Cavour, the representative of Sardinia; Lord Cowley, the resident British Ambassador; Baron de Bourqueney, who has fulfilled so many diplomatic missions in our time; Baron Hubner, the resident Austrian Minister; and one or two other auxiliary diplomatists, complete the group, which is partly seated and partly standing around the table on which the treaty was signed.

The chief feature of the apartment is a noble chimney-piece in the style of Louis XVI., or the Empire, as far as we could make out. Accuracy in every particular was within the reach of the artist, all facility having been given him in making his sketches.

The figures, fifteen in number, are the size of life, and the picture fills the whole wall of the saloon of Messrs. Leggett, in Cornhill. The subject is a great one, and the artist is, to use a diplomatic metaphor, *à la hauteur de sa mission*. The colouring is nowhere ambitious—sober, in fact, to English eyes; but the painting is firm and sustained; and in the composition, the distribution of so large a space evinces unquestionable skill.

The moral and political signification of this picture is such as may well make an Englishman proud. The lineaments of the British Statesman who so worthily represented his country on this occasion recall a tenure of the Foreign Office marked by expansive intelligence under the control of a sober judgment and firm tenacity of right, regulated by conciliatory procedures, which constitute the most essential qualities of the practical diplomatist.

PRINTING IN COLOURS.

CRICKETERS. After J. RITCHIE. Lithographed in Colours by VINCENT BROOKS. London: Boys.

The great extension that printing in colours has latterly received is well worthy of attention. It is true that there are many things which it cannot as yet accomplish. It dare not depart from a fundamental tone, or give united gradations from cold to warm, or from warm to cold, and when a variety of colours are introduced there is a great risk of spotty confusion. Rock, foreground, meadow, and water, as well as architectural masses, can be given with effect; but the skies are generally muddled, and foliage in a foreground very vague. On the other hand, high lights of brilliant colour, if inserted with judgment, come out with marvellous effect. The great rule of the printer in colours ought to be, not to attempt too much, to keep within safe bounds, and gradually to feel his way to those complex effects of painting or drawing by hand. The tone of the cricket-field has all the agreeable warmth of nature in the beginning of autumn, and the grouping of the spectators is easy and natural. The companion subject is "A Picnic Party"—with the water and the ground on the left of which we are particularly well pleased. The right side of this picture, comprising the dark trunks of trees, is not to us so agreeable, the obstacle being more in the imperfect procedures hitherto established than in the incapacity of the artist, because it is with an embryo art that we are dealing.

THE ENJOYMENTS OF PEACE and THE MISERIES OF WAR.

These are larger and much more ambitious efforts; they are by the same artists as the above. What strikes us in the former plate is a great inequality of effect and execution, some portions being admirable, and others betraying that embryo state of the art of which we have spoken. The large oak is certainly very clever; and the tiled roof of the old roadside inn is brilliant and effective as in a scene of Grieve or Telbin. There are also delicacies in the tint of the pond which have all the illusion of a diorama; but still the spottiness and uncertainty mar the general effect as a vehicle of truth. In parts we are under the illusion—in other parts, to use a French expression for which there is no equivalent, we are *désillusionnés*. "The Miseries of War" is the most ambitious of all these efforts. The conflagration of the village, and the water illumined by the distant break in the clouds, are good; but, as a whole, we would say *qui trop embrasse mal étreint*.

ENGRAVINGS.

THE PIPER. Engraved by EDWARD GOODALL after FREDERICK GOODALL, A.R.A. Art-Union of London, 1857.

We have here a domestic scene in the manner of Teniers, Wilkie, De Brakelaar, Thomas Faed, *et hoc genus omne*. A peasant's hut is enlivened by the presence of a blind piper led by his dog. The young mother stands with her children around her, and the aged grandmother holding a grandchild completes the group. The expression of this last figure is full of homely truth and heartiness. Age renews its youth in such scenes to which the forlorn, woe-begone appearance of the aged itinerant piper forms so striking a contrast. The locality, with its humble still-life, and its rafters begrimed with the smoke of generations, gives fine scope to the engraver, who has performed his work magnificently. Not only are these details done in a manner that recalls the best efforts of the eighteenth century, but the slight atmospheric veil is preserved with a delicacy which is utterly beyond the conception and execution of many engravers. This is a print which the most fastidious collector may add with satisfaction to his portfolio or cabinet.

THE BANK CHARTER ACT.*

THE appointment of a Committee of the House of Commons to investigate and report upon the Bank Charter Act of 1844 has fairly revived discussion on the Currency question. On various occasions the disciples of Mr. Huskisson have confidently announced to the world that the controversy was settled for ever; but, though more than half a century has elapsed since the famous Bullion Committee of 1810 published their memorable report, diversity of opinion still exists in undiminished antagonism. Colonel Torrens, one of the earliest writers on the subject, deems it prudent again to buckle on his armour in defence of bullionism. Mr. Combe has appeared as a champion of metallic money, and found an opponent of no ordinary prowess in Colonel Macdonald. As secretary to the late Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Arbuthnot has taken the field in defence of the principles of that lamented statesman; and from the mercantile ranks comes forth Mr. Hamer Stansfield, of Leeds, as an opponent of the doctrines advocated by Lord Overstone. The followers of Mr. Huskisson stand firmly to his fundamental proposition, that it is "the essence of money to possess intrinsic value," however they may differ as to the mode of securing the convertibility of the note; and in this unity of purpose resides their strength. On the other hand they who repudiate his monetary creed differ widely amongst themselves, and thus their opposition assumes a sectional character.

Many who object to the Act of 1844 adhere to the Act of 1819; but when Sir Robert Peel adopted the former, confessedly as a complement to the latter, he virtually condemned his earlier measure. A minor difference arises as to the division of the Bank of England into the Issue and Banking departments, and there is a still more trifling dispute as to the amount of notes which the Bank ought to issue on securities, uncovered by bullion. Others object to the limitation of banks, enforced by the Act of 1844, which established a monopoly in violation of the almost universally-accepted principles of Free-trade. In this diversity of details the main subject is too frequently overlooked or reduced into a subordinate position. It is, therefore, satisfactory to find in Mr. Duncan's publication that he presents the doctrine he seeks to establish fully without any reservation whatever, and distinctly without circumlocution. In his introductory chapter he brings forward the leading arguments, both of the bullionists and of their opponents, so that the reader perceives at a glance the broad outlines of the controversy.

Mr. Duncan draws a broad and deep line of demarcation between the moneyed instruments required in the home and foreign trade: in the former, and in the former alone, he would use representatives of money; in the latter, bullion. By his plan he believes that gold would be economised, as it would not be needed in any of our domestic exchanges, so that, whether it were hoarded or exported, discounts would not rise; nor would any disturbance, or even inconvenience, arise in our internal trade. This representative, or imperial, money would be in the nature of an Exchequer Bill, which is not payable in gold on demand; or in the nature of a postage-stamp. It would never be sent out of the country; for, though valuable among ourselves, it would be valueless to foreigners. The foreigner would still trade with us on the same basis as he now trades—that is, according to the measure of intrinsic value, estimated in bullion. He, therefore, would never raise an objection to a change of system which would be a purely domestic arrangement, in no respect interfering with international exchanges.

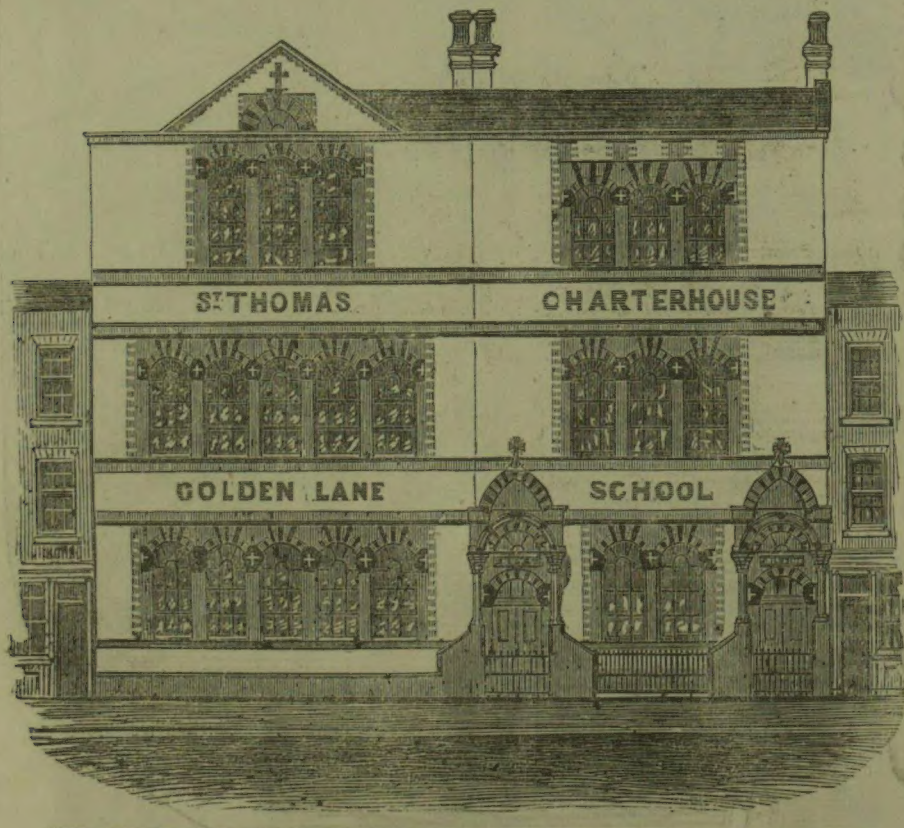
Mr. Duncan—whose views we have endeavoured thus briefly to epitomize, without a leaning either in support or in condemnation of his theory—gives us an historical sketch of the origin of coin and of the variation in English money from the earliest period down to the days in which we live. In this inquiry all the leading points in the bullionist controversy are examined—as the depreciation of the pound, John Law's Bank, French Assignats, the continental money of America, and the Scotch system. The suspension of cash payments in 1797, and the acts of 1816, 1819, and 1844, with the several panics caused by those measures, are minutely discussed. This mode of treatment necessary leads to a criticism on the doctrines propounded by the more eminent writers and speakers on the currency question, in which the author displays considerable research. Lord Overstone's theory of trade is subjected to a rigid analysis and condemned in unqualified terms.

Speaking in general terms, the main object of the writer of this book is to restore gold to its character as a commodity, to deprive it of its *mint* price, and to permit it to find its *market* price in national representative money under the law of supply and demand. Whatever difference of opinion may be entertained as to the premises or conclusions insisted on by Mr. Duncan, it must be acknowledged that his book is honest, and that he has not evaded any difficulty or concealed any argument that militates against the system he has espoused. He is thoroughly in earnest, and no one can mistake his meaning. All partisanship he repudiates; and it is evident that what he has written is the result of patient study and matured reflection.

* "Ought the Bank of England or the People of England to receive the Profits of the National Circulation?" By Jonathan Duncan, B.A., Author of "Aladdin's Letters on Monetary Science." D. F. Oakley, Paternoster-row.

DEPARTURE OF THE ALLIED TROOPS FROM GREECE.—The *Moniteur* of Monday last publishes a letter from Athens, dated the 4th inst., stating that the English and French troops which have been in occupation of the Piræus took their departure on the 28th of February. The vessels, on board which they had embarked the previous night, weighed anchor at seven o'clock in the morning, and after they got out of the harbour saluted the Royal flag of Greece, which was hoisted upon the Palace, with a discharge of twenty-one guns. The French Minister at Athens, having written to M. Rangabé, the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs, to inform him of the embarkation of the Allied troops, received a letter in reply, in which M. Rangabé says:—"I feel it a real pleasure to be enabled to concur in the honourable testimony which has been so generally borne to the good conduct of the troops during their stay in Greece, and the care which has been taken by them never to depart from those rules of order and discipline which distinguish the soldiers of the nations that stand foremost in civilisation. By their irreproachable conduct, by the example of good order and industry which they have given at the Piræus, and by the improvements and public works which they have carried into execution there, these soldiers have earned the esteem and gratitude of the inhabitants of this city. It is most agreeable to me, therefore, M. le Ministre, to be enabled to state, that the King's Government joins, for its own part, in the well-merited eulogies which have thus been obtained by the troops who quit the soil of Greece to-day."

THE COMING COMET.—PARIS, March 13.—At the last reception at the Tuilleries, which took place the night before last, the coming comet was one of the subjects of conversation. Her Majesty the Empress seeing M. Leverrier, the well-known astronomer, among the guests, determined to make fun of the unsuspecting savant, and, feigning great alarm at the destruction of our globe, which this "extravagant and erring" luminary is, according to a German stargazer, to accomplish on the 13th of June, consulted him on the subject. M. Leverrier, to the great amusement of the guests, entered into a long refutation of this notion; and his embarrassment in endeavouring to avoid accusing her Majesty, who ill-naturedly would not be persuaded, and his scientific enthusiasm, made the evening pass off much more merrily than is usually the case with Imperial soirées—generally solemn stiff affairs.



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(SEE PAGE 268.)

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